

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING CECIL J. DELANGE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to commend the honorable Park County Commissioner, Cecil J. DeLange, on a job well done. Mr. DeLange has been the Park County Commissioner since 1998. He was concerned with issues such as finance and personnel within the local government. In December, Mr. DeLange will conclude his service as a County Commissioner.

Mr. DeLange, before becoming commissioner, spent three decades with the John Deere Corp. in Illinois and Iowa. Upon moving to Colorado, he started a consulting business and was quite active in the Home Owners Association. Mr. DeLange's knowledge of business and agriculture has helped him guide Park County.

Mr. DeLange, through his public service, has made Park County a better place to live and for that Colorado is thankful.

Thanks for your hard work, Cecil. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

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TRIBUTE TO VERONICA BARELA

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the splendid efforts and notable accomplishments of an extraordinary woman in the 1st Congressional District of Colorado. It is both fitting and proper that we recognize this community leader for her exceptional record of civic leadership and invaluable service. It is to commend this outstanding citizen that I rise to honor Veronica Barela.

Veronica Barela has made a tremendous impact on our community and has an impressive record of civic involvement. Ms. Barela has served as the Director of the NEWSED Community Development Corporation, since 1978. She is recognized for her skills in community based economic development, community organizing, housing development, civic event management, development of successful arts and culture initiatives, and civic rights work. Her leadership has been the catalyst for the revitalization of Santa Fe Drive in Denver. Her efforts through NEWSED have attracted one hundred and eighty new businesses to Santa Fe Drive and near Westside Neighborhood and, in addition, she has developed two shopping plazas and one mini center for the community. These business development successes have generated over 3,000 jobs for the immediate community. Ms. Barela's efforts have been nationally recognized and NEWSED has developed national standing as a model Community Development Corporation.

Veronica Barela has also made great contributions to the cultural life of our community. Through her leadership, the annual Cinco de Mayo celebration in Denver has grown to be the largest outdoor Cinco de Mayo celebration in the United States. Her broad range of activities and interests has been a great service to our city as well. She has served as the Chairperson of the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority Board and served as Co-Chair of the Human Service and Education Committee for Denver's Comprehensive Plan 2000. She was President of Hispanics of Colorado and co-chaired the People of Color Coalition. Ms. Barela was appointed to the Consumer Advisory Council for the Federal Reserve Board in Washington DC and served in various capacities on the National Community Reinvestment Coalition Board. Other board memberships include Servicios de La Raza, the American Civil Liberties Union, Denver's Urban Economic Development Corporation and the Hispanic Advisory Council for both Mayors Pena and Webb.

Her commitment and service has earned her several awards in including the Outstanding Women's Award from Metropolitan State College. Mayor Wellington Webb declared June 26, 1992, "Veronica Barela Day" in the City and County of Denver for her long standing work in civil rights, economic development and community organizing.

Please join me in commending Veronica Barela. It is the strong leadership she exhibits on a daily basis that continually enhances our lives and builds a better future for all Americans. Her life serves as an example to which we should all aspire.

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IN MEMORY OF JOSEPH HENRY SKILES

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding citizen and community leader from the Fourth District of Texas—the late Joseph Henry Skiles, Jr., of Sanger, TX, who passed away earlier this year at the young age of 56.

Mr. Skiles was president of Tenstrike Oil and Gas and advisory director of Guaranty National Bank of Sanger. He was a member of the Sanger Lions Club and the Public Library Board and was a lifetime member of the First United Methodist Church in Denton.

Mr. Skiles was born on November 4, 1943, in Lincoln, Nebraska, to Joseph Henry Skiles, Sr., and Kathleen Clayton Skiles. A graduate of Denton High School, he earned a bachelor's degree in economics in 1965 from Southern Methodist University and a jurisprudence degree in 1968 from Harvard University School of Law. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was a Vietnam veteran.

Mr. Skiles is preceded in death by his wife Kathleen Dolan Skiles. He is survived by his

son, Clayton Dolan Skiles and daughter, Claire Elizabeth Blanche Skiles, and many other family members and friends. He was an integral part of his community and will be sorely missed. So as we adjourn today, let us do so in memory of Joseph Henry Skiles, Jr.

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HONORING MYRON MYLES KRONKRIGHT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I take this moment to recognize the accomplished life of Myron Myles Kronkright. Mike, as he was known, recently passed on at age 77. Mike was a cherished person among the Grand Junction community and he will be greatly missed.

Mike committed nearly half of his adult life helping the children of Grand Junction, Colorado. For over four decades he officiated football, basketball, baseball and softball throughout the valley. He helped to establish the Football and Basketball Officials Association for Colorado as well as served on the Grand Junction Park and Recreation Advisory Board. His commitment to helping children and the sports community was recognized when he was presented the Lloyd McMillian Award and when a softball complex was named in his honor.

Mike went to great lengths to help others, donating a great deal of time and effort to help the children of his community understand the importance of team sports. He helped Colorado by giving them an association where other individuals could learn the importance of helping children appreciate fair play in athletics. He may be gone, but memories like these will live on in the hearts of all that knew him.

Mike Kronkright was a truly great Coloradan that was extremely committed not only to bettering children's lives through team sports, but also giving back to his community. He had an immense impact upon the community of Grand Junction that will not soon be forgotten.

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TRIBUTE TO LORRAINE GRANADO

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the splendid efforts and notable accomplishments of an extraordinary woman in the 1st Congressional District of Colorado. It is both fitting and proper that we recognize this community leader for her exceptional record of civic leadership and invaluable service. It is to commend this outstanding citizen that I rise to honor Lorraine Granado.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Lorraine Granado has been on the frontlines of progress in Denver for decades. She has been an organizer and powerful advocate in work she describes as "real life stuff." Throughout her life, Ms. Granado has promoted the well being of all people, including Latinos. As an organizer, she describes herself as "a person who works with people who have a real need, a willingness to do something about it, and a passion for social justice."

Presently, she is the Executive Director of the Cross-Community Coalition in the Globeville, Swansea and Elyria neighborhoods in Denver. People in these communities have weathered tremendous change over the years and through Ms. Granado's efforts, they are able to better address issues related to economic empowerment and environmental justice because of her common sense approach to problem solving. Through her leadership, the Cross Community Coalition continues to bring tangible benefits to disadvantaged people through their Family Resource Center which offers job training and placement, various social services, and after school programs.

Lorraine Granado has helped build a number of organizations through her work in board development, non-profit management, media relations, leadership development, advocacy, teaching organizing techniques, and public policy participation. She has served as an organizing member of various organizations including: the Colorado Women's Lobby; the Elyria/Swansea Economic Development Corporation; Hispanics of Colorado; the National Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign; the Better Jobs for Women Project; the Colorado People's Environmental and Economic Network; People of Color Consortium Against AIDS; and the Colorado Coalition for Full Employment Project. Her accomplishments include: helping to re-write Denver's Industrial Zoning Code to include residential buffer zones; working with members of the National Chemical Manufacturers Association to develop guidance for community outreach; helping stop the placement of a regional medical waste incinerator in the community; developing a conference with the Environmental Protection Agency to address Brownfields issues and explore ways in which community members, developers and government can work together to redevelop communities.

It comes as no surprise that Lorraine Granado received the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award because of her beliefs, values, philosophy and determination to forward non-violence as a means of achieving peace and justice.

Please join me in commending Lorraine Granado. It is the strong leadership that she exhibits on a daily basis that continually enhances our lives and builds a better future for all Americans. Her life serves as an example to which we should all aspire.

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CELEBRATING THE 93D BIRTHDAY
OF DON LEGG

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of an exemplary citizen of the

Fourth District of Texas, Don Legg of Mabank, TX, who celebrated his ninety-third birthday this year. Retirement seems never to have been an option for Don, as he continues to serve as the "glue" that holds together the staff of The Monitor, the local Mabank newspaper. The staff of the newspaper wrote a moving tribute to Don on the occasion of his birthday, some of which I would like to recount for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

No one seems to know exactly how many years Don has worked for the newspaper, but each Wednesday and Friday he still reports to work for a final proofing of the newspaper and continues to hold his title as primary reporter for the Kemp community and its schools. He is an avid fan of the Kemp Yellow Jackets and reports on any and all sporting events in which the school competes.

Two years ago Don suffered a stroke. While in the hospital, recuperating from the stroke which left his speech impaired but his mind still sharp and his desire for writing intact, he continued to work on stories and to cover events and meetings with the help of his wife, Mary, and a number of devoted friends.

According to the newspaper tribute, Don always has a smile and a joke to share with co-workers. He has taught young reporters the art of "reporting," and they have learned from his extensive knowledge and experience. As the staff said, "The office just wouldn't be the same without him." And the same could be said of his beloved community. "It just wouldn't be the same without him."

So, Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today, let us do so in honor of Don Legg, who at the age of 93 may be a "senior citizen"—but also is still an "active citizen." Happy Birthday, Don!

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HONORING JULIUS DAMMANN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like moment to celebrate the life of Julius "Bud" Dammann of Pueblo, Colorado. Sadly, Bud died earlier this month. While friends and family mourn his passing, I would like to take this opportunity to remember Mr. Dammann's distinguished life.

Mr. Dammann was a caring person who constantly did what he could to improve his community, whether that was supporting the local 4-H Club or ensuring his employees were being treated as well as they should be. Mr. Dammann owned and operated Industrial Gas Products and Supply in Pueblo for over five decades. His commitment to ensuring a quality-working environment earned him a distinguished reputation as a businessman.

Being from a small town, Bud used sports as a way to further his education. His athletic ability enabled him to enroll in Colorado Agricultural College where he received honorable mention All-American honors for football. After receiving his education, he returned to Pueblo where he was drafted into World War II. After returning a proud war veteran, he began his successful local business for which he is widely known.

His desire to help his community started when he took over his family's grocery busi-

ness. A native of Pueblo, Bud understood the area and realized the importance of education and giving back to his community. This desire to better his community was eminently apparent in his involvement in the Masonic Lodge, the Al Kaly Shriners, the Elks Club and as an original member of the 30 Club, an organization that raises charity money for other Pueblo charities. Bud's desire to help young people was evident in his involvement on the University of Southern Colorado Foundation Board and the Pueblo Community College vocational board.

Julius "Bud" Dammann cared a great deal about his community and his fellow man. He did everything in his power to ensure Pueblo was a better community for all its citizens, both young and old. Bud was truly a great Coloradan and he will greatly be missed.

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TRIBUTE TO WANDA PADILLA

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the splendid efforts and notable accomplishments of an extraordinary woman in the 1st Congressional District of Colorado. It is both fitting and proper that we recognize this community leader for her exceptional record of civic leadership and invaluable service. It is to commend this outstanding citizen that I rise to honor Wanda Padilla.

Wanda Padilla has best been described as a "dynamo" and she has had a tremendous impact on our community. Ms. Padilla is the woman behind the scenes at La Voz de Colorado, one of our state's most influential Hispanic bilingual newspapers. Known as the Hispanic Voice of Colorado, this Spanish-English newspaper has been published continuously since 1974, and under her leadership, it has matured into a solid weekly newspaper in the Denver area.

Ms. Padilla, who is an Illinois native and graduate of Northwestern University, has been a trailblazer and has built this newspaper business from the ground up. In the beginning, she sold ads, wrote copy, did layouts and billing and distributed the newspaper, all while raising her son Ramon.

La Voz de Colorado fills a real need and it has given the Hispanic Community in the 1st Congressional District a strong political and economic voice. Under Ms. Padilla's leadership as Publisher, the newspaper has experienced tremendous growth and she intends to further expand the newspaper to meet the needs of the growing Hispanic marketplace. The tradition excellence and solid commitment to speaking for Colorado's Hispanics has made La Voz de Colorado a standard bearer for journalistic excellence in the Denver Metro area.

In addition to her work at La Voz de Colorado, Wanda Padilla is active in the oldest Catholic congregation in Denver, Sacred Heart Church. Ms. Padilla also serves as a foster mom for her godchild and his sister. While she admits these duties interrupt her tough schedule, her work with children is a labor "from the heart."

Please join me in commending Wanda Padilla. It is the strong leadership that she exhibits on a daily basis that continually enhances our lives and builds a better future for

all Americans. Her life serves as an example to which we should all aspire.

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IN CELEBRATION OF CELESTE,
TEXAS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to the citizens and former residents of Celeste, Texas, who are celebrating the rich heritage of their hometown with a community celebration on September 3, 2000. Founded more than 100 years ago, the town of Celeste has endured and thrived due to the hard work, devotion, and community spirit of those who have chosen to live and work and raise their families there. From the early settlers to today's citizens, Celeste has been blessed with honest, hard-working families who take pride in their community and work hard to preserve the wonderful town that I am honored to represent in the Fourth Congressional District of Texas.

The town of Celeste was born when Santa Fe Railroad officials purchased land situated in Hunt County, 50 miles from Dallas, on high rolling prairie between the north fork of the Sabine River and the south fork of the Red River and at the junction of the Missouri Pacific, Gulf Colorado and Santa Fe Railways. The engineers divided the town site into blocks and streets, and a public sale of town lots was held on April 19, 1887. The settlement was named Celeste in honor of one of the railroad official's daughters. On February 11, 1898, more than 20 residents and qualified voters met in the office of the Hunt County Judge for the purpose of incorporating Celeste, and an election was held on March 5, 1898, officially incorporating the town.

In the early years, and even before the railroad began to purchase land or lay tracks, numerous small settlements were established around what is now known as Celeste. Some families still reside in these communities; other settlements are marked by graveyards and other markers, and their history is kept alive through the memories shared by those who once lived there. White Rock, Kingston, Prosperity, Alliance, Dulaney, Hackberry, Goosneck, Orange Grove, Hickory Creek, Hogeys (where Audie Murphy once lived), Nicholson, Midway, Bradburn, and Lane are some of the beloved settlements that were part of Celeste's early history.

Those were the days when small (sometimes one-room) schools were commonplace. Most of these communities established their own schools, and other beloved schools in the area included Antioch School, Crescent School, Davenport School, Sam Houston School, Prairie Hill School, Enterprise School, and Rainbow School. These eventually consolidated and most became part of the Celeste school system.

Churches also were vital to these communities, providing spiritual and moral guidance as well as a "meeting place" for social gatherings. Some of these churches remain active in their respective communities.

Records indicate that Celeste received its first postmaster in 1886. The post office was housed in several buildings until 1962, when a

new building was dedicated by Congressman Ray Roberts, who traced its legacy to his predecessor, the Representative from the Fourth Congressional District and the great former Speaker of the House, Sam Rayburn.

For many years the Celeste Courier chronicled the events of this community. Births and deaths, school and church activities, commerce and crime, politics and social events, sports and other interests were reported for area residents. But of course much of the news also was shared in person by this close-knit community, most of whom know each other well.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize this outstanding city in the Fourth Congressional District and to pay tribute to the citizens of Celeste, Texas, as they honor their hometown on the occasion of this wonderful celebration. Let us join today in celebrating the rich history of Celeste and wishing this community much happiness and prosperity for another hundred years.

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HONORING THE CEDAREDDGE
POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the Cedaredge Police Department for receiving the Colorado Association of Chief of Police Accreditation Award. This award is given to Departments that meet lofty and highly selective standards. This fitting award was accepted by Marshall Tom Early and Officers Archibeque and Beach of the Cedaredge Police Department.

According to the Chief of Police of Montrose, Colorado, Gary Meecham, in a recent article by Leeanna Mewhinney, "Many people do not know what it takes in order to get this honorable award. Over 160 standards must be met and out of 300 agencies (police departments) in Colorado, only 3 departments on the Western Slope have received this, Cedaredge being one of them." This statement shows the dedication and hard work that is required to receive this distinguished recognition.

Police officers work very hard and often do not receive the recognition they truly deserve. It is with great honor that I congratulate the officers of Cedaredge Colorado for not only their recent award, but also their continued efforts to keep Western Colorado a safe environment for all its citizens.

As a former police officer, I am grateful for their service to our community, state and nation.

Congratulations!

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TRIBUTE TO OPHELIA MEJIA

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the splendid efforts and notable accomplishments of an extraordinary woman in the 1st Congressional District of Colorado. It is

both fitting and proper that we recognize this community leader for her exceptional record of civic leadership and invaluable service. It is to commend this outstanding citizen that I rise to honor Ophelia Mejia.

Ophelia Mejia has devoted a lifetime to improving the condition of children and families in the Denver area. Ophelia was born to parents who emigrated from Mexico and following her father's death at an early age, she graduated from Greeley High School and was employed at the Greeley Tribune while attending the University of Northern Colorado on a scholarship. There, she met her husband and subsequently, they had thirteen children.

Ms. Mejia began her distinguished career in early childhood care and development in the Park Hill area where she opened a family childcare home. She then taught preschool, became a director, and began to teach at the Community College of Aurora where she ultimately became department chair for the Early Childhood Education Department. In that capacity, she was able to access many grants in order that students who had difficulty paying tuition could still attend classes. She is now a specialist with the Community Development Institute, a Head Start Quality Improvement Center for Region VIII, where she provides training and technical assistance to sixteen Head Start Programs.

Ophelia has an impressive history of civic leadership. She is president of the Colorado Child Care Workforce, a board member of the Colorado Association for the Education of Young Children, and a member of the Colorado Child Care Commission. She also serves on the Professional Development and Distance Learning Committees of the Colorado Early Childhood Summit. She conducts bilingual and monolingual Spanish assessments of candidates for the Colorado Child Care Development Associate credential and has been on the advisory boards for the early childhood departments of Metropolitan State College, Emily Griffith Opportunity School, First Start, Including Children with Disabilities, and Healthy Start Initiatives. Additionally, she has been a member of the Colorado Child Care Coalition, the early Childhood Educators' Network, the Colorado Community College Faculty Coalition and the Latin Council of Aurora.

It comes as no surprise that Ophelia Mejia's devotion and service to our community has been honored and she received the first Outstanding Leaders Award from the Denver Metro Association for the Education of Young Children.

Please join me in commending Ophelia Mejia. It is the strong leadership that she exhibits on a daily basis that continually enhances our lives and builds a better future for all Americans. Her life serves as an example to which we should all aspire.

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COMMENDING ARTHUR AND IDA
ANDER FRIEDMAN

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to commend two of Northwest Indiana's most distinguished citizens, Arthur and Ida Ander Friedman. On Sunday, September

10, 2000, Art and Ida will be honored for their exemplary and dedicated service to Northwest Indiana and to the State of Israel. Their praiseworthy efforts will be recognized at the annual Northwest Indiana-Israel Dinner of Peace Award. The State of Israel Bond presents the City of Peace Award to worthy recipients who demonstrate their dedication and outstanding service to Israel and their community.

This year's recipients, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ander Friedman, are two of the most caring, dedicated, and selfless citizens of Indiana's First Congressional District. Art and Ida hail from Hammond, Indiana and Davenport, Iowa, respectively. Art is a World War II Veteran, and proudly served under General Patton in the European Theater. He is actively involved in several organizations, including B'nai B'rith, his Synagogue's Men's Club, and the Marcus-Wallack Heart Fund. Ida shares Art's dedication to Northwest Indiana and the Jewish community there, and invests extraordinary time and energy in important community and national groups. She has been active in Jewish Women International, the Synagogue's Sisterhood, Hadassah, and the Marcus-Wallack Heart Fund.

While serving the greater community has always been an extremely important part of the Friedmans' lives, their dedication to their family is unparalleled. Art and Ida have three wonderful, grown children, Gary, Richard, and Steven. Their four grandchildren are constant sources of pride and happiness.

The special guest at this gala event will be Mr. Morton Klein. Mr. Klein is the National President of the Zionist Organization of America. He is a strong defender of Israel and a respected leader in the American Jewish community.

Mr. Speaker., I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Art and Ida Friedman for their lifetime of service, success, and dedication to Indiana's First Congressional District and the State of Israel.

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HONORING COSME SANCHEZ JR.

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the Honorable Cosme Sanchez, Jr. on his outstanding commitment to public service. Mr. Sanchez has spent over three decades serving his community, most recently as Costilla County Treasurer. Mr. Sanchez has also served as County Appraiser and Town Clerk and Municipal Judge for the town of San Luis.

The Honorable Mr. Sanchez has served the citizens of Costilla County exceptionally well in his roles as a public servant. Citizens such as Mr. Sanchez, that are willing to spend so much of their lives serving the public, are the reason that the state of Colorado is the great state that it is. Costilla County is privileged to have had such an upstanding public servant as Mr. Sanchez.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Sanchez on his commitment to bettering his community through public service. I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO POLLY BACA

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the splendid efforts and notable accomplishments of an extraordinary woman in the 1st Congressional District of Colorado. It is both fitting and proper that we recognize this community leader for her exceptional record of civic leadership and invaluable service. It is to commend this outstanding citizen that I rise to honor Polly Baca.

Polly Baca has amassed a distinguished record of leadership in our community and service to our nation. Ms. Baca grew up in Greeley Colorado and where she attended high school. After graduating from Colorado State University with a degree in political science, she began her professional career as an editorial assistant for a labor union in Washington, DC. During the Johnson Administration, she served as a Public Information Officer for a key White House Agency and after serving on the campaign staff for the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy, she served as the Director of Research and Information for the National Council of La Raza.

Polly Baca has always been a trailblazer and upon returning to Colorado, she was elected to the Colorado House of Representatives and was the first woman elected to chair the House Democratic Caucus. She was subsequently elected to the Colorado Senate and became the first minority woman and the first and only Hispanic woman to serve in this body and the first Hispanic woman to serve in leadership in a State Senate in the U.S.

Prior to joining the Clinton Administration, Ms. Baca was the Executive Director of the Colorado Hispanic Institute, a non-profit entity dedicated to developing cultural competence and multicultural leadership. She went on to serve as the Director of the U.S. Office of Consumer Affairs and in that capacity, she chaired the Consumer Affairs Council and the U.S. delegation to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's Committee on Consumer Policy. Subsequently, Ms. Baca was appointed Regional Administrator of the General Services Administration in the six-state Rocky Mountain Region and is the first minority woman and the first Hispanic woman to be appointed to this position.

Ms. Baca is nationally known for her leadership skill and has extensive experience in foreign affairs and is a noted international speaker as well. She has lectured in Japan and the Philippines on the American political system and the role of racial and ethnic Americans and women in the American socio-political and economic systems. Currently, Ms. Baca is the CEO of Sierra Baca Services which is a firm specializing in multicultural leadership development and diversity training.

Her commitment and service has earned her several awards including being inducted into the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame and into the National Hispanic Hall of Fame as an original member. She received the Small Business Administrator's Advocate of the Year Award for Colorado and the Leadership Award from the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

Please join me in commending Polly Baca. It is the strong leadership she exhibits on a

daily basis that continually enhances our lives and builds a better future for all Americans. Her life serves as an example to which we should all aspire.

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HONORING BISHOP RICARDO HENRY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bishop Ricardo Henry, Pastor of the True Vine Glorious Church of God in Christ. I honor Bishop Henry today to celebrate with him his 67th birthday, which occurred last week, on September 2, 2000. Mr. Speaker, Bishop Henry is deserving of our praise on his birthday because he has served as a pillar of our community, having devoted his life to serving the needs of others.

Born on September 2, 1933 on the island of Old Providence, Colombia, Bishop Henry was blessed with excellence, greatness, the favor of God, love and honor, the law of kindness in tongue, morality and character. All of these amazing attributes are the result of a God-centered life.

At the age of 7 months, he migrated to the Republic of Panama, where he received his elementary education at the Escuela Pablo Arosemena. He obtained his high school education at Colegio Abel Bravo and, upon graduation, he pursued his formal Christian training at Bible School in Panama from 1957 to 1958.

In 1963, he immigrated to the United States and became a member of the Evergreen Baptist Church. In 1965, he moved his membership to the Sacred Heart Christian Church, where he was ordained as a minister of the gospel by Bishop Roden James. He was later consecrated as a Bishop by Bishop Charles DeGilio and Bishop Trevlen Williams. In 1986 he became a member of the Glorious Church of God in Christ, and served as an Associate Minister to Bishop Perry Lindsay, Sr. Appointed by Bishop Perry Lindsay, Sr., in 1997 he became Pastor of the True Vine Glorious Church of God in Christ.

Mr. Speaker, Bishop Ricardo Henry is more than worthy of receiving our birthday wishes, and I hope that all of my colleagues will join me today in honoring this truly remarkable man.

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HONORING CLEO DAY

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to commend the Honorable Cleo Day on her distinguished service as Custer County Commissioner in Colorado. Serving as County Commissioner since 1992, Ms. Day has focused on a whole array of important issues, including efforts to protect property rights and helping improve the Emergency 911 service in Custer County.

Before becoming County Commissioner, Ms. Day ran a number of small grocery stores throughout Colorado that were committed to

the service of the local citizens. After leaving the grocery store business, Ms. Day ran for County Commissioner to give back to the community that had given so much to her. Her commitment to the wellbeing of the citizens of Custer County is honest and sincere and was ever present in her everyday actions. Cleo has served Custer County, her state and nation admirably and she will be missed.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you and congratulations to this public servant and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

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ON THE INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO REMOVE THE CAP ON MEDICAID FOR THE U.S. TERRITORIES

HON. DONNA MC CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill, along with my colleagues from Guam, American Samoa and Puerto Rico, to remove the cap on Medicaid payments to the Territories and to increase the Medicaid statutory matching rate. Providing indigent U.S. citizens in the Territories with the dollars necessary to adequately meet their health care needs is not just a necessity, but I believe is a Civil Right.

Since 1997, eliminating the disparities in health care between the majority and minority populations in the mainland U.S. has been a major focus of the Clinton Administration. While this is an important goal and one which I wholeheartedly support, because of the cap on Federal Medicaid assistance to the Territories, my constituents and those of my fellow Congressional Delegates unfortunately do not benefit very much from this effort.

The lack of adequate health care for the over 4 million residents of the territories in both the Pacific and the Caribbean is largely due to the cap on federal funding in the Medicaid. Additionally, this fact is sadly compounded because the Territories, in large measure have not enjoyed the economic success that the mainland U.S. is enjoying. With reports every day of record federal budget surpluses, the time is right for the Federal government to fulfill its commitment to the health care needs of the people of the offshore areas.

I urge my colleagues to join us in this effort to address this most basic and fundamental need of our fellow citizens.

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DOMESTIC SPIRITS TAX EQUITY ACT

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill, along with my colleague, Representative RICHARD NEAL, to end the unequal tax treatment imposed on U.S. produced distilled spirits. At a time when other countries adopt tax laws to favor their own domestic industries, it is ironic that current U.S. tax law favors foreign products at the expense of U.S.-made products. Regrettably, that is the case with respect to distilled spirits. As mem-

bers of the Committee on Ways & Means, both Mr. NEAL and I have worked for some-time to correct this inequitable situation.

Current law allows wholesalers of imported spirits to defer the federal excise tax ("FET") on such products until they are removed from a custom bonded warehouse for sale to a retailer. In contrast, the FET on U.S. produced spirits must be paid "up front" when the wholesaler purchases the product from a distiller; custom bonded warehouses cannot be used for domestic distilled products. This means that the FET on U.S. produced spirits must be prepaid by the wholesaler, and carried as a part of his inventory cost for as long as it takes to sell that product out of his warehouse.

Couple this disparity in time of payment with the fact that distilled spirits are the most highly taxed of all products, and you begin to understand the seriousness of the problem. At \$13.50 per proof gallon, the FET represents virtually 40 percent of the average wholesaler's inventory cost. To make matters worse, that wholesaler will generally carry that inventory for an average of 60 days before it is sold to a retailer. The bottom line is that U.S. tax policy favors the sale of imported spirits and creates a significant financial burden for wholesalers of domestic spirits—most of which are small, family-owned businesses operating within a single state.

For the past ten years, the wholesale tier of this industry has advocated a tax law policy change referred to as "All-in-Bond." Mr. NEAL and I sponsored the "Distilled Spirits Tax Simplification Act" at the beginning of the 106th Congress to effectuate this policy change. Simply put, it would have permitted wholesalers of domestic spirits to become bonded dealers, effectively deferring payment of the tax until sale to a retailer—as is already the case with imported spirits.

Given the obvious inequity of current law, the bill attracted the co-sponsorship of 75 of our colleagues from both sides of the aisle. As a consequence, Mr. Neal and I were successful in attaching the bill to a major tax reduction measure coming out of the Committee on Ways & Means last summer, which was subsequently approved by this body.

However, Treasury/BATF had unwarranted concerns about noncompliance and suppliers objected to a proposed fee that was required to offset any revenue costs to the federal coffers. As a result of these objections, we agreed to drop the provision in conference and go back to the drawing board to develop a better solution to the problem.

The "Domestic Spirits Tax Equity Act" is that better solution.

The purpose of this legislation is to compensate wholesalers for the unequal burden imposed on U.S. produced distilled spirits under current law. We do so by allowing qualified wholesalers of domestic spirits a prepaid tax adjustment tax, or PTA, which is a credit against their annual federal income tax.

The PTA is determined through a simple formula. It is equal to 40 percent of the amount paid for domestically produced spirits, times the IRS' applicable federal rate over a 60-day period. The PTA was crafted with simplicity in mind. The elements of the formula are easily verifiable and understandable by the wholesaler and the IRS, and the formula results in an accurate overall measure of the unequal float costs. In addition, unlike the All-in-Bond proposal, this bill does not change the current FET collection system.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort to eliminate the unequal tax treatment imposed on U.S. produced distilled spirits. The PTA is a simple and targeted solution, which addresses the problem, and I look forward to passing this measure into law.

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HONORING HAROLD WESTESEN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor a remarkable gentleman, Harold Westesen, of Olathe, Colorado. Mr. Westesen was recently honored by Mayor Bill Patterson of the Montrose Rotary Club who declared an official "Harold Westesen Day" in Olathe. Mr. Westesen's contributions to the citizens of western Colorado are great in number and deserve the recognition of Congress.

Mr. Westesen came from a family where education and hard work were part of everyday life. Throughout his life, he has exemplified these characteristics, earning two degrees from major institutions: a Physics and an Electrical Engineering degree from Colorado College and Purdue University, respectively. After finding competition in these fields unseemly, Harold moved to farming in the 1930's where he remained for the next 40 years.

Mr. Westesen always worked hard to make a living, but he also found time to give back to his community. Such public works as the Ridgeway Dam would not have been possible if it hadn't been for his participation. What's more, he spent over 25 years on the Montrose Memorial Hospital Board improving the health services of his community. He also spent nearly ten years as president of the Tri-County Water Conservancy District Board, making sure that farmers of western Colorado received the much needed water they deserved.

Mr. Westesen has worked hard not only for his family but also his community. His efforts to improve the health care and water issues have made western Colorado a better place to live. Mr. Westesen has gone out of his way to make where he lives a better place for all. It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you to Harold Westesen and congratulate him on having a day named in his honor.

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FIRST LIEUTENANT JOHN ARTHUR KEEPNEWS, UNITED STATES MA- RINE, MANHASSET, NEW YORK

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 25th Anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War. We remember the brave and gallant service and the great sacrifice made by the sons and daughters of our great nation who served in that war. Even more important, we remember the great sacrifice made by the parents, spouses and families of those sons and daughters.

The Vietnam War has left an indelible mark on all parts of this nation of ours, including my own district in New York. St. Mary's High School, which lies within the town of Manhasset, in my district in New York, was also affected by the Vietnam War. It sent many of its sons to fight in the Vietnam War, some paying the Supreme Sacrifice in the service of our country.

During the latter part of this year, St. Mary's High School will be holding its First Annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Nominated for induction is United States Marine First Lieutenant John Arthur Keepnews of Manhasset.

John Arthur Keepnews was born in Bayside, Queens and moved with his parents and younger brother Robert to the suburban community of Manhasset in 1958. His parents bought a home at 443 Hunt Lane, nestled in the heart of beautiful Munsey Park. During that same year, he entered St. Mary's High School in Manhasset and his parents became devout St. Mary's Parishioners.

John Keepnews was your typical student at St. Mary's High School. He was a young man with a great deal of heart and potential. He was an honor student and a top runner on the St. Mary's High School Cross Country and Track Teams and on Long Island. He worked very hard at his running and as one of his former coaches put it, "John did not have a lot of talent, but he had the tenacity of a bulldog." He trained in innovative ways which included running on beaches and interval, hill and weight training, at a time when distance runners merely did distance running to train. John Keepnews trained in a manner that was ahead of its time. (Today, these training methods are common to runners of all categories, as these methods provide more power and help to prevent injury.)

At St. Mary's, he was coached by Brother Thomas Joseph. In cross country, John ran in the low 14's on the legendary Cross Country course at Van Courtlandt Park in Bronx, New York. In track, John ran a 4:50 mile and a 9:52 two mile, his best event. He medaled frequently in races and enjoyed some heated rivalries. During his senior year at St. Mary's, John co-captained the track team and placed 4th in the two mile in both the indoor and outdoor Eastern States Championships. He received a track scholarship to Iona College in New York and the promise of a scholarship at Mount St. Mary's College in Maryland. John became an exceptional runner at St. Mary's and was one of the top distance runners of his time, if not in the history of St. Mary's High School.

Outside of St. Mary's he was a regular guy, who would often find his way to the field at

After graduating from St. Mary's High School in 1962, John decided to attend Mount St. Mary's College. The "Mount" was part of the Mason-Dixon (Athletic) Conference of the National College Athletic Association (NCAA). Pursuing his running career here, John placed second in the two mile during the 1963 Outdoor Mason-Dixon Conference Championships and helped to contribute to the first ever Mount St. Mary's College track title. John was also instrumental in helping the team win the

1964 cross-country conference crown and the track title. He ran 4:37 for the mile, placed 4th in the 1962 Loyola Cross-Country Invitational, placed 5th in the 1963 Outdoor Track NCAA Atlantic Coast Regional 2 mile race and won the mile and two mile on numerous occasions. He was named All-Conference on several occasions and may have held at one point both the cross country and two mile records.

Graduating from Mount St. Mary's College in 1966, John entered the Marine Corps Officer Candidate School (OCS) and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant. He graduated from The Basic School in Quantico, Virginia as an infantry officer and waived his overseas control date and requested orders to Vietnam. In early 1968 (just in time for the Tet Offensive), John was a Platoon Commander and Executive Officer of F Company, 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines, 3rd Marine Division. His unit spent all of its time just below the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), near places that are now legend in the Marine Corps: Khe Sanh, Con Thien, Camp Carroll, Quang Tri and the Rockpile. As were all the Marines in I Corps (the northernmost provinces of Vietnam), John's unit was in almost constant contact with North Vietnamese Army regulars. On a daily basis, John and his unit sought out, closed with and destroyed the best trained, best equipped and best led units of the North Vietnamese Army.

Tragically, we lost this Great American and outstanding Marine from Manhasset on June 7, 1968. It was at the time of his death that his brother Robert was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps. First Lieutenant John Arthur Keepnews was killed as a result of multiple shrapnel wounds received near Landing Zone Stud (later renamed the Vandergrift Combat Base) in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam. His death coincided with the 170th Anniversary of the formal establishment of the Marine Corps by the United States Government. It was in June of 1798 that Congress legally established the Marine Corps as a separate Department of the Navy.

As a result of his brave and gallant service and self sacrifice as a United States Marine during the Vietnam War, Lt. Keepnews was awarded a Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with three bronze stars, Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Commendation (Gallantry Cross Color) and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

At the time of his death in June of 1968, Lt. Keepnews was survived by his parents Arthur J. and Mary E. Keepnews, his younger brother Robert, his wife Patricia and his 5 month old daughter he had never seen, Margaret Ann.

We have much to be thankful for First Lieutenant John Arthur Keepnews and extend appreciation not just for his supreme sacrifice in the service of our country, but also the great sacrifice made by his family. We will forever remember John Keepnews, his humor, wit, hard work, perseverance, athleticism and bravery. I am proud to know that John Keepnews was a resident of my district, the 3rd Congressional District of New York. I know full well that when a young person joins the

St. Mary's High School Cross Country and Track teams, John Keepnews will be with them placing hope and encouragement in them with each stride they take, in each race they compete in.

First Lieutenant John Arthur Keepnews is a true representative of St. Mary's, of Manhasset, his country and his family. He represents the highest character of morals and bravery and embodies the spirit and principles of what it means to be a Great American. He is a person we are and will always be extremely proud of.

In closing, I would like the members of this chamber to join me in remembering a true American Patriot and support his nomination for Induction into the St. Mary's High School Hall of Fame.

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HONORING STUART SCHNEIDER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Stuart Schneider on an award he recently received from the National Park Service. Stuart is the Chief of Visitor and Resource Protection at Great Sand Dunes National Monument in Colorado—a treasure that shares a special place in my heart. Recently he received the Harry Yount National Park Ranger Award, honoring him for his outstanding excellence in his field. Clearly, Stuart is eminently deserving of this high honor.

For years, Stuart has been highly respected in the land management community for his commitment to preserving and protecting our public lands, particularly the Great Sand Dunes. He has played an instrumental role in the creation and maintenance of the Backcountry Management Plan, the Wildland Fire Management Plan, as well as the Safety and Risk Management Plan. His efforts to preserve the integrity of this natural treasure has earned him not only respect from his peers, but also this distinguished award.

Stuart's professional excellence is perhaps best summarized by comments made by National Park Director Robert Stanton in a recent news release announcing that Stuart had won this award: "Ranger Schneider has demonstrated a genuine commitment to the field of rangers. He has a tremendous passion and respect for the National Park Service along with a strong command of traditional ranger skills."

Ranger Schneider's commitment to preserving and protecting America's natural heritage is remarkable. He has helped to make America's national treasures safer for the millions of tourists that visit them each year. His efforts are well deserving of the distinguished award and the praise of the U.S. Congress.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I would ask that we all extend our sincerest congratulations to a well deserving Ranger, Stuart Schneider.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
ASSISTANCE AND BILL OF
RIGHTS ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4920, the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000. Congressmen LAZIO and HOYER are to be saluted for their hard work in ensuring that the Developmental Disabilities Act (DD Act) will be reauthorized this year. The bill before the House is very similar to the DD Act reauthorization which passed the other chamber by a vote of 99-0. It is bipartisan in nature, and I urge that the House pass this legislation today.

It is estimated that there are more than 4 million individuals living with developmental disabilities in our nation today. To ensure that these individuals have access to programs which allow them to live life to their fullest potential, this reauthorization continues funding for programs which have proven effective over the past decades.

There are four major, historic components of the DD Act. These are: (1) State Developmental Disability Councils, which advise governors and state agencies about the best ways to meet the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities; (2) protection and advocacy systems, which ensure that individuals living with developmental disabilities are protected from neglect, abuse, exploitation, and the violation of their legal and human rights; (3) University Affiliated Programs, much like the one at the Medical College of Virginia, which train the professionals of tomorrow who will treat individuals with developmental disabilities; and (4) projects of national significance.

Beyond providing DD Councils, P & A systems and University Affiliated Programs with greater flexibility, the bill also includes a Title which creates the Reaching Up Scholarship Program to provide vouchers for individuals who provide direct support to individuals with developmental disabilities.

Importantly, the bill contains language which ensures that individuals with developmental disabilities, along with their families, are the primary decisionmakers regarding the services and supports such individuals and their families receive, including the choice of where the individuals should live. We have heard from one group, the Voice of the Retarded, who is concerned that this language does not go far enough in protecting residential choice for individuals with developmental disabilities. So I want to make it clear that the Act before us in no way is meant to preclude residential choice. It is not intended to send a signal that the Federal government supports closing certain facilities, or that the Federal government opposes such actions. Instead, these decisions are to be left to the individual States. Because I believe the concerns of the Voice of the Retarded are heartfelt and legitimate, I pledge to work with them in the implementation of this Act, and to ask the General Accounting Office to investigate whether individuals with developmental disabilities are precluded from choosing the residential option of their preference.

As a last note, I want to stress the importance of family support programs. The other body included in their reauthorization a Title which would allow States to compete for family support grants, intended to help families raising children with developmental disabilities. While the bill before us does not contain such a Title, I want to assure the disability community that I will do all in my power to fight for this Title in Conference.

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INTRODUCTION OF MEDICARE
INTERNET SITE FOR THE SAFE
PURCHASE OF PRESCRIPTION
DRUGS AT THE BEST DOMESTIC
AND INTERNATIONAL PRICE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Medicare Prescription Drug Internet Access Act of 2000. This bill will allow Medicare beneficiaries to purchase safe, FDA-approved medication through a Medicare re-approved internet site from US and international suppliers at the lowest possible prices.

Prescription drug costs are the highest they have ever been. The cost of prescription medicine increased between 15 and 25 percent over the past year. As a result, many of our nation's seniors either resort to reducing their dosage to stretch their supply or simply go without their needed medication.

Residents of other countries pay less for the same prescription medicine than our seniors get in the US. Much of the extra cost is related to marketing and advertising of drugs. Twenty to thirty cents of every dollar spent on a prescription drug goes to the advertising and marketing of the product.

Why should Medicare beneficiaries in the United States have to pay more than residents of other countries for the same medication?

Under the bill I am introducing today, Medicare beneficiaries would have access to those lower prices from a safe, certified-reliable source. All a beneficiary, doctor, or a pharmacy serving a beneficiary has to do is click on the Medicare home page, type in their prescription, and up pops the five lowest prices for their medicine, available from domestic and international suppliers. The beneficiary submits their prescription to the internet pharmacy, and gets their medicine at the price he or she selects, through the mail, by express delivery, or at their local retail pharmacy. There is no lag time in pricing because these prices will be available on a "real time" basis. Existing domestic internet pharmacies are eligible to compete for business on this official Medicare website.

The only medicine that contracting internet pharmacies would be able to sell is FDA-approved medicine manufactured in FDA-approved facilities. We have the best drug approval process in the world. The federal Food and Drug Administration sends inspectors to other countries to examine the quality of the medicine, storage conditions and facilities, distribution of the medicine, and manufacturing facilities of foreign companies before they can import drugs into the United States. Internet pharmacies, under this bill, would only be able to import prescription medicine from approved

companies that have been inspected by the FDA.

There are problems that exist today with phony websites pawning counterfeit medicine to unsuspecting people. This bill addresses the issue of so-called "rogue" websites. It establishes a uniform set of criteria to which contracting internet pharmacies must adhere or face criminal and financial consequences. Among other criteria, internet pharmacies would have to be licensed in all 50 states as a pharmacy, fully comply with State and Federal laws, and only dispense medicine with a valid prescription through a licensed practitioner.

As an added precaution, internet pharmacies would be required to display a Medicare Seal of Approval which serves to authenticate the website. The seal would directly link to a secure webpage operated by the Medicare contractor which verifies the internet pharmacy's legitimacy.

I am proud to introduce the Medicare Prescription Drug Internet Access Act of 2000. It is unfair that seniors in the US are forced to shoulder a greater burden in higher drug costs. I urge your support of this bill which would allow Medicare beneficiaries access to safe, FDA-approved prescription medicines at lower prices.

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AUGUST CITIZEN OF THE MONTH

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to name Garden City resident Indu Jaiswal, the Director of Nutrition Services for the Promenade Rehabilitation and Health Care Center in Rockaway Park, as the Citizen of the Month in the Fourth Congressional District for August 2000.

Indu is a prominent leader in both the Indian Community on Long Island and in her nutritional profession. As a nurse, I know how nutrition is directly related to the good health and extended lives of people.

Indu also works as a Clinical Nutritionist for the Western Queens Health Associates and represents the Dietary Department at Administrative and Medical Board Meetings. She organizes treatment programs for patient education as well as for diabetic teams. She is involved in the planning, directing, implementing, and evaluating of all activities of the Food Service Department.

Indu is a health care professional who is also interested in the health of her community. She actively participates in many community activities. She served as President of the India Association of Long Island, Secretary of the Federation of the Indian Association in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut, and the Vice President of the India Study Center at Stony Brook University. She also serves as a Board member of the Youth Council of Nassau County.

Along with caring for her Long Island patients in an office setting, Indu cares for all Long Islanders by sending out her good health messages on radio and television airways.

The contributions that Indu has made to our community are astounding.

Indu is a graduate of the University of Delhi in New Delhi, India. She completed her post

graduate requirements at Long Island University, C.W. Post Campus. Before working for the Promenade Rehabilitation and Health Care Center, Indu worked for the Central Island Nursing Home in Plainview, The Health Related Nutrition Services, The Dialysis Clearing Center of Long Island, and Winthrop University Hospital. She is a resident of Garden City.

The Citizen of the Month program is aimed at highlighting the work of community activists. Each month, I will recognize a different person or group that has contributed to the betterment of our Long Island community.

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HONORING JOE R. JANOSEC

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to recognize the outstanding service of the Honorable Joe R. Janosec, of Moffat County, Colorado. Mr. Janosec is retiring as Moffat County Commissioner after nearly a decade of service to his community. Joe's commitment to public service is obvious to all those around him and his contributions to his community have been many.

Mr. Janosec began working in Colorado as an educator in 1962. His desire to educate America's youth led him to a career in education that spanned almost three decades. After serving as principal of Moffat County High School, he turned to elected office where his involvement was immense and his service admirable. In addition, Joe brought strong leadership abilities to a vast array of groups and organizations serving as a member of the Executive Board of the Colorado High School Activities Board, president of Western District CCI, Chair of the AGNC Coal Issues Committee and the Regional Transportation Committee.

Mr. Janosec's natural ability to lead and desire to serve his fellow man will be greatly missed. He had donated nearly a decade to serving his community and has ensured that it is a better place in which to live.

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A TRIBUTE TO JOHN SPODOFORA

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a great environmentalist, a dedicated citizen, and a good friend.

John Spodofora has been a member of the Stafford Township Council since 1988, serving as the esteemed Chairman of the Environmental Commission. Under his leadership, Stafford Township has become the most recognized areas in our country for its environmental efforts. No doubt this is due in great part to the tremendous contributions John has made to help ensure Stafford Township is kept environmentally sound.

On many occasions, John's efforts have resulted in prestigious awards for his community. For eleven consecutive years, Stafford Township has received the "National Tree City USA Award" from the National Arbor Day

Foundation. In fact, Stafford County also received the "National Arbor Day Foundation Growth Award", which is the highest designation a Tree City can achieve. The Township was a recipient of this award for nine consecutive years. No other community in the United States has won this award more than Stafford Township.

Other awards Stafford Township has received under John Spodofora's leadership include the "Association of New Jersey Environmental Commission's First Place Environmental Achievement Award" (1987-1991), the "National Groundwater Guardian Award" (1994-2000), the "New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Conservation Award" (1993-1994), the "National Arbor Day Foundation Special Merit Award" (2000), the "National Renew America Conservation Award" (1991-1995), First Place "Quality New Jersey Award" for improvements to beach and water quality (1992), NJDEP First Place "Green Community Achievement Award" (1994), National "Take Pride in America Award" (1994), Environmental Protection Agency's "First Place National Award of Excellence" (1994), and the NJDEP "New Jersey Environmental Excellence Award" for clean and plentiful water (2000).

On many occasions, John has been personally recognized for his environmental innovations and efforts towards making the Stafford community a better one. In fact, one of my proudest moments was nominating John for the "National Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Award" back in 1990. President George Bush presented this award to John during a special ceremony at the White House.

Throughout my time in public office, few people have impressed me more than John. His dedication to the preservation of our natural habitat is unmatched. In many ways, John's efforts have made Stafford Township a better place to live today.

Even more importantly, his environmental contributions will have a lasting impact on this community for years to come. Future generations will be surrounded by a beautiful and bountiful natural habitat thanks to John. He has blessed us with the gift of a healthy and safe environment that our children and grandchildren will enjoy for many, many years.

I strongly commend John for all he has done for Stafford Township and am honored to pay him tribute.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was granted a leave of absence and missed votes during the month of July, I would now like to enter into the RECORD how I would have voted had I been present.

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 373: H. Amdt. 962 to H.R. 4461. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 374: H. Amdt. 963 to H.R. 4461. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 375: H. Amdt. 964 to H.R. 4461. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 376: H. Amdt. 966 to H.R. 4461. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 377: H. Amdt. 967 to H.R. 4461. Had I been present I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 378: H. Amdt. 971 to H.R. 4461. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall 379: H. Con Res. 253. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 380: H.R. 4442. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 381: H. Res. 415. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 382: H. Amdt. 973 to H.R. 4461. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 383: H. Amdt. 976, to H.R. 4461. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 384: H. Amdt. 977 to H.R. 4461. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 385: H.R. 4461. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 386, approval of the journal. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 387 H. Res. 545 to H.R. 4810. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 388: H.R. 3298 Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 389: H.R. 4169. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 390: H. Amdt. 979 to H.R. 4810. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 391: to H.R. 4810. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 392: H.R. 4810. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 393: H.R. 4447. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 394: On Agreeing to the Resolution related to consideration of H.R. 4811. Had I been present, I would have voted "no," I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 395: On closing portions of the conference related to H.R. 4576, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for FY 2001. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 396: H. Amdt. 997 to H.R. 4811. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 397: H. Amdt. 982 to H.R. 4811. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 398: H. Amdt. 983 to H.R. 4811. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 399: H. Amdt. 1001 to H.R. 4811. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 400: passage of H.R. 4811. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 401: H. Res. 534. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 402: H. Res. 319. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 403: H. Res. 531. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 404: H.R. 3125. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 405. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 406: passage of H.R. 3113. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall vote No. 411: H.R. 4517. If I had been present I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall vote No. 408: Motion to Instruct to H.R. 4810. If I had been present I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 409. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 410: H. Amdt. 1010 to H.R. 1102. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 411: Recommit to H. R. 1102. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 412: H.R. 1102. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 413: on passage of H.R. 4576. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 414: on passage of H.R. 4118. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall vote No. 415: Motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 4577. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall vote No. 416: H.R. 2634. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 417: H. Res. 559 to H.R. 4810. Had I been present I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 418: H.R. 4810. Had I been present I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 419: H. Res. 4871. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 420: H.R. 4871. If I had been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 421: H. Amdt. 1013 to H.R. 4871. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 422: H. Amdt. 1017 to H.R. 4871. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 423: H. Amdt. 1021 to H.R. 4871. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 424: H. Amdt. 1023 to H.R. 4871. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 425: on passage of H.R. 4871. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 426: H. Amdt. 1031 to H.R. 4871. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 427: H. Amdt. 1032 to H.R. 4871. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 428: Passage of H.R. 4871. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 429, H.R. 4700. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 430: H.R. 4923. Had I been available, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 431: H.R. 4888. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 432: passage of H.R. 4864. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 433: H.R. 1651. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 434: H.R. 2919. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 435: S. 1910. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 436: H.R. 4806. Had I been present I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 437: Passage of H. Con. Res. 372. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 438: H.R. 4868, If I had been present I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 439: H.R. 4033. If I had been present I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 440: H.R. 4710, If I had been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 441: H.J. Res. 99. If I had been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 442: H. Res. 563 to H.R. 4942. If I had been present I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 443: Journal vote. If I had been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 445: on closing portions of the conference to H.R. 4205, Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 446: H. Res. 568 to H.R. 4516. If I had been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 446: H. Res. 568 to H.R. 4516. If I had been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 447: H. Res. 564 to H.R. 4865. If I had been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 448: H. Res. 565 to H.R. 4516. If I had been present, I would have voted "no."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 449: H. Amdt. 1041 to H.R. 4865. If I had been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 450: Passage of H.R. 4865. If I had been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING THE LATE REVEREND MONSIGNOR OSCAR LUJAN CALVO

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the island of Guam recently lost a well-loved and respected religious leader. The Very Reverend Monsignor Oscar Lujan Calvo, a peacemaker, historian, and teacher, was called to his eternal rest on July 28, 2000, a few days shy of his 85th birthday. The third Chamorro to be ordained as a Roman Catholic priest, Monsignor Calvo tended to the island's faithful during the dark days of Japanese occupation during World War II. He later chose to work towards healing the wounds caused by the war and towards the preservation of Chamorro history and culture.

Known more commonly as Pale' 'Oscat, and more affectionately as "Pale' Scot," Monsignor Oscar Lujan Calvo was a renowned figure in the Roman Catholic Church hierarchy as well as in the history of Guam. Born in the city of Hagatna on August 2, 1915, Monsignor Calvo received primary instruction on Guam. At the age of thirteen, he went to the Philippines to attend the San Jose Preparatory Seminary. He returned home thirteen years later and was ordained on April 5, 1941, joining Father Jose Palomo and Father Jesus Duenas, as the only other Chamorros in the Catholic priesthood of that era. He celebrated his first Mass on Easter Sunday, April 13, 1941. Eight months later, on December 8, Japanese Imperial Forces attacked Guam.

During the occupation, Monsignor Calvo conducted secret Masses in direct defiance of regulations forbidding him and Guam's two other men of the cloth, Father Jesus Baza Duenas and Baptist minister, Reverend Joaquin Sablan, from practicing their faiths. Upon the execution of Father Duenas at the hands of the Japanese occupiers, the burden of tending to the island's faithful, roughly 20,000 Roman Catholics, rested solely upon the monsignor. This difficult task was gladly accepted by the monsignor. He performed with grace and distinction. During this period, the monsignor also made an attempt to preserve valuable church records and artifacts by secretly removing the church valuables to a safer location. Unfortunately, these items were not spared from the intense American bombardment during the liberation of Guam. Records of births, deaths and marriages dating back to the 1700s were destroyed. It was this immense loss that inspired Pale' 'Scot to become such an avid collector of artifacts and written materials about Guam and its people.

After having undergone the trials and tribulations brought about by the war, the good monsignor worked hard to heal the wounds it had caused. He played a major role in the establishment of the Guam Peace Memorial Park. This park, funded entirely by private Japanese donations, was dedicated as a tribute in memory of the Japanese and Chamorros who died during the war. In recognition of his efforts to promote peace, friendship and goodwill, the Japanese Government conferred upon him its distinguished Order of the Rising Sun with gold and silver rays. He was the first American to receive this prestigious award.

Monsignor Calvo was awarded the title of Honorary Papal Chamberlain in 1947. A charter member of the Fr. San Vitores Council of the Knights of Columbus, he was elevated to the order of 4th degree knight in 1968. The monsignor was inducted a knight in the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes, and of Malta, with the title of Magistral Chaplain in 1977. During Pope John Paul II's visit to Guam in 1981, the monsignor received the "Kiss of Peace" from the pontiff.

A lifetime spent serving the Church and the people of Guam culminated last year with the dedication of the Monsignor Oscar Lujan Calvo Gallery at the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral-Basilica in Hagatna in December. The museum is a fitting tribute to a man who has been a spiritual advisor, a civic leader, a historian and teacher. It houses a vast number of the historic documents, books, publications, photographs, and artifacts the monsignor has carefully collected and lovingly preserved over many years. With the dedication of the Monsignor Oscar Lujan Calvo Gallery, we were granted the opportunity to benefit from the monsignor's diligent efforts to preserve, protect, and promote Chamorro culture and history.

It is an impossible task to give an exact accounting of the monsignor's laudable accomplishments and vast contributions to the island of Guam. The legacy he leaves behind is unequalled. I join his family and the people of Guam in celebrating his life and accomplishments and mourning the loss of a truly great man. Adios Pale' Scot.

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TRIBUTE TO SPECIAL AGENT
STANLEY J. "CHIP" AMROZOWICZ

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to pay tribute and officially recognize the retirement of my good friend, Special Agent Stanley "Chip" Amrozowicz.

Known by many as "Chip A-to-Z," Special Agent Amrozowicz has distinguished himself as a proud example of service, leadership, and professionalism in law enforcement. His excellent career with the Federal Bureau of Investigation is one of dedication and achievement.

Throughout his service with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Chip has been assigned to the Organized Crime/Narcotics Squad, the White Collar Crime Squad, the Foreign Counter-Intelligence Squad and the Reactive Squad. In 1988, he formed the Special Operations Group within the Buffalo Division that oversees all undercover activities.

Prior to his appointment as Special Agent, Chip served the Nation as an Officer in the United States Army. He was an Infantry Platoon Leader and Infantry Company Commander with the Army during the war in Vietnam. That bravery, patriotism, and valor would serve him well when he returned and began service with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

His current duties with the Bureau highlight his extensive experience and ability to lead. As the Police Training Coordinator, FBI Na-

tional Academy Coordinator, Employee Assistance Program Coordinator and Police Instructor, Chip has helped ensure that the next generation of Agents working with the FBI in Buffalo will be as skilled as those in the past. In addition to those important duties, Chip also serves as Special Weapons and Tactics Reserve Commander and the Canadian Liaison Agent. It is plain to see that Chip's service to the FBI has been outstanding, and will undoubtedly be missed.

Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to join with the Amrozowicz family in commending Chip on a job well done. With retirement comes many new opportunities, both personal and professional. May Chip meet each of these opportunities with the same vigor and commitment as he did throughout his brilliant career, and may those opportunities be as fruitful as those in his past.

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INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
NAMING THE "GARDNER C.
GRANT POST OFFICE BUILDING"

HON. JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to rename the Post Office in Cherryfield, Maine after the town's long-time Postmaster, Gardner C. Grant.

In rural Maine, as in rural areas all across the country, the Post Office is more than just a place to get your mail, and the Postmaster is more than just an employee. The Post Office is a gathering place, where neighbors catch up and exchange information. The Postmaster is part of the community, sharing news and helping everyone.

Gardner Grant served as Postmaster in Cherryfield for a remarkable 27 years. He also has been an active part of the community, serving as a Selectman, Academy Trustee, Planning Board member and an assessor. Gardner and his family—his wife Virginia and their two sons—are part of the very fabric of this Down East Maine town.

Gardner's service has earned him the admiration and respect of the people of Cherryfield. To honor him, I have been asked to submit this legislation to designate the Gardner C. Grant Post Office Building. I am proud to do so. Gardner Grant has served Cherryfield with distinction, and I agree that naming the Post Office in his honor would be a fitting tribute. I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this legislation into law.

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TRIBUTE TO MR. RAY G. SMITH,
AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL
COMMANDER

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Ray G. Smith.

Ray will be sworn in as the National Commander of the American Legion at their annual convention today. No one is more deserving of this honor than Ray G. Smith. As a 45-year

member of the American Legion, he has steadily gained the respect of Legionnaires all across the country.

Like me, Ray grew up in Johnston County, North Carolina. He joined the Air Force in 1951 and saw active duty during the Korean War. He served in the 20th Air Force, 19th Bomb Wing at Anderson Air Force Base in Guam, where his specialized training in engineering required him to spend much of his time during the war traveling throughout the Pacific and Southeast Asia.

Ray's military service did not end when he left active duty in 1955. He spent four years in the active Air Force Reserves and was honorably discharged in 1959. On September 7, 1955, the day after he was discharged from the Air Force, Ray became a member of the American Legion. Since then, he has risen steadily through the ranks. Ray has held numerous offices at the post, district, department and national levels, including North Carolina Department Commander in 1979 and National Vice Commander in 1988.

Ray's campaign for National Commander has taken the better part of two years and sent him all over the country. Being named National Commander of the American Legion is an enormous responsibility, but Ray's dedication and years of loyal service have proven that no one is more capable or worthy of this high honor. Only the second North Carolinian to serve as national commander, Ray will oversee an organization that has grown to 2.8 million strong since it was created by Congress in 1919. As National Commander, one of Ray's main duties will involve working with us here in Congress to ensure that those who have sacrificed so much for our country receive the benefits they have earned.

As a veteran of the United States Army myself, I look forward to working with Ray and all members of the American Legion on issues that are important to veterans. As we celebrate Ray's swearing in today, let us each take a moment to honor our veterans. For each of us, freedom is a way of life, a legacy left to us by our nation's founders. This freedom is costly. America owes veterans a debt of gratitude for their sacrifices. It is the service of these genuine American heroes that has helped make this country great.

Mr. Speaker, no one is more qualified to represent and lead these heroes than my friend Ray G. Smith.

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HONORING THE "YES WEEK" SUMMER CAMP FOR DETERRING YOUNG PEOPLE FROM DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, today I honor and draw attention to the YES Week Summer Camp which was sponsored by High on Kids. High on Kids is a wonderful program started by the Lower Dauphin School District's community advisory committee on drug and alcohol abuse prevention.

YES Week was held at Camp Sertoma in Linglestown and Memorial Lake in Lebanon. Almost forty children took part in this exciting program. The YES Week camp teaches young

people that life is worth living through adventurous activities without drugs and alcohol.

The fine students who attended this camp climbed and rappelled walls, negotiated high-wires and canoed down the mighty Susquehanna River. They learned through team-building exercises that much can be accomplished if they work together. Our young people need to learn that life is full of amazing and exhilarating adventures. When they learn that there is so much to live for, drugs and alcohol lose their power.

On Thursday, August 10, I had the pleasure of seeing this camp first hand and meeting with the young people who made a choice. They made a life-saving choice not to do drugs and to join with fellow students in something much greater. These young folks should be very proud of themselves for their determination to succeed and not to give into the temptations that lead to poisoned bodies and ruined lives.

America needs more programs like this. Programs where adults demonstrate leadership by doing. This is a vivid example of how children can learn life-lessons by adults guiding them and shaping their lives. Many volunteers made this camp possible. Our thanks go out to them for their service to the community.

I would like to recognize these young people for their determination to achieve success and to refuse drugs and alcohol. They are Juan Alejandro, Jose Aleman, Thomas Barger, Jeremiah Bechtel, Kaleo Bilet, Tyler Boehmer, Kaitlyn Brown, Eric Buck, Maggie Boyd, Lindsay Cale, Sara Cale, Brian Davis, Michael Day, Joseph Decembrino, Amanda Ebersole, Amanda Fahnestock, Laura Fahnestock, Dierra Fahnestock, Abby Fosnot, Jenna Gerhardt, Jamie Hall, Alex Hannold, Samuel Hansen, Matthew Hoerner, Lawrence Jack, Dominique Krow, Andrew Mattei, Matthew Mattei, Adam McClucas, Daniel Mullarkey, Ashley Oswald, Brian Pagano, Kelsey Roth, Adam Thomas, Joshua Thomas, Meredith Thomas, Nicholas Vickroy, Richie Vickroy, Jennifer Winters, and Bobbie Wreski.

I am very proud of you all. I know the entire House of Representatives joins me in congratulating this outstanding group of young people from Harrisburg for saying no to drugs and YES to life.

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A TRIBUTE TO SHERIFF RONALD
E. HEWETT

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sheriff Ronald E. Hewett of Brunswick County in the great state of North Carolina. Sheriff Hewett was recently named Sheriff of the Year for eastern North Carolina. This award was given to him in recognition of his outstanding service to the North Carolina Sheriff's Association on behalf of the citizens of Brunswick County.

Beginning on his twentieth birthday in 1983 when he became the youngest certified Law Enforcement Officer in North Carolina, Sheriff Hewett has dedicated his entire career to protecting and promoting the rights of others. While continuing to work full-time as a law en-

forcement officer in Brunswick County, Sheriff Hewett completed his education at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and graduated in 1985 with a degree in criminal justice. Not long afterwards, he was promoted to uniform Patrol Sergeant in 1987 and rose in the ranks to become a lieutenant in 1990. He was then placed in charge of establishing the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program for Brunswick County and was named United States DARE officer of the Year in 1993 for his outstanding leadership.

Since his election as Sheriff in 1994, Sheriff Hewett has fought hard to make Brunswick County a safer place to live and work for those who call it home. He has made combating illegal drugs and domestic violence two of his top priorities. Under his leadership, the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office has arrested over twelve hundred individuals for 2,300 narcotics charges and established the county's first Domestic Violence Unit.

In addition, Sheriff Hewett has also been recognized for his selfless service to the community with the establishment of a volunteer Buddy Program at the Bolivia Elementary School. As a result, the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office was named by Governor Hunt as one of the most outstanding volunteer agencies in the state in 1998.

President John F. Kennedy once said, "For those to whom much is given, much is required. And when at some future date when history judges us, recording whether in our brief span of service we fulfilled our responsibilities to the state, our success or failure, in whatever office we hold, will be measured by the answers to four questions: First, were we truly men of courage . . . Second, were we truly men of judgment . . . Third, were we truly men of integrity . . . Finally, were we truly men of dedication?"

Brunswick County Sheriff Ronald Hewett will truthfully be able to answer each of these questions in the affirmative! He is indeed a man of courage, judgment, integrity, and dedication. Sheriff Hewett, may God's strength, joy, and peace be with you and your family as you continue your service and commitment to your fellow citizens.

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TRIBUTE TO CAROLYN L.
WILBERDING

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Carolyn L. Wilberding, who has recently retired as an elementary school teacher from the 4th Congressional District of Michigan.

It has been said that a teacher effects eternity, she can never tell where her influence ends. These words certainly apply to Carolyn L. Wilberding. For over three decades, Carolyn educated hundreds of Mid-Michigan's elementary school children. Not only was she seen as a leader by her peers but an educator by her students. Her positive impact on her students and their families is truly incalculable.

Mrs. Wilberding retires knowing she achieved that intangible, often elusive goal that haunts the careers of many, she made a difference.

I would like to commend Mrs. Wilberding for her service to her students and congratulate her on her retirement.

Mrs. Wilberding's contribution to education and the community make her an outstanding role model and a respected professional in her field. On behalf of the residents of the 4th Congressional District of Michigan, I am honored to recognize Mrs. Wilberding and her accomplishments.

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TRIBUTE TO OLYMPIC ATHLETES

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, It is with great excitement that I rise today to honor four outstanding athletes from California's 17th District, Alvin and Calvin Harrison, Ramiro Corrales, and Ellen Wilson. These young Americans will be representing the United States of America in the Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia this September, and I am proud to congratulate them on their achievements.

Seated twelfth and fifteenth when the trials began, twins Alvin and Calvin Harrison beat the odds on Sunday, July 16, 2000, in Sacramento, and came in second and fifth place in the 400 meters, becoming the first twins to reach the Olympics in the same event. Further, it is likely that they will become the first set of twins to run together in the 1600 meter relay. I am pleased that the Harrisons achieved this historic victory on their own, opting not to train with a track club in favor of training together in Salinas, California.

Likewise, another Salinas native, Ramiro Corrales will be representing the United States as a defensive specialist on the United States' Olympic soccer team. Corrales is already extremely accomplished in major league soccer, having played for the San Jose Earthquakes, the Miami Fusion, and the New York Metro Stars. He is also well known in his league for his defensive prowess and talent.

And finally, Ellen Wilson, a three-time medalist at the Pan American Judo Championships and Salinas resident, will compete in Sydney as a member of the United States judo team. Wilson is ranked number one in judo in the United States and was a member of the World Team in judo in 1997 and 1999. She has won 1,500 judo matches in her career, and we anticipate that she will come out victorious in Sydney.

California's 17th District is proud to have these four young athletes representing the United States in this summer's Olympic Games. Salinas is delighted to be one of the only cities of its size to send so many wonderful athletes to the Games. It is truly a tribute to the community and to the families, coaches, and friends, that have supported these athletes to see them competing in such a renowned arena.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to wish these outstanding athletes good luck this September, and I am honored to congratulate them on their outstanding achievements.

IN HONOR OF JIM PETRO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Jim Petro, Ohio Auditor of State, chief inspector and supervisor of public offices in the State of Ohio.

Mr. Petro has served Ohio in both the public and the private sector. His legal experience spans more than 25 years as a practicing attorney, law partner, city law director and criminal prosecutor. He served eight years in the Ohio House of Representatives and was a ranking member of the House Ethics Committee. He also served as a Cuyahoga County Commissioner for four years, including one as President of the Commission.

Mr. Petro is currently serving his second term as Ohio Auditor of State, responsible for overseeing the financial condition and legal compliance of all 4,500 units of government in Ohio. He has served that challenging role with professionalism and integrity. He has advocated accountability with tax dollars and worked to uncover instances of fraud, waste and abuse in government. He has saved taxpayers millions of dollars. Under his leadership the Audit office has contributed to the improvement of public services. Mr. Petro has been awarded the Mercedes Cotner Scholarship in recognition of his public service.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me today in honoring Ohio's Auditor, Jim Petro.

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AMBUSH MARKETING

HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, with the Olympic Games scheduled to begin shortly in Sydney, Australia, now is an exciting time for all Americans, and we all have high hopes for our U.S. Olympic team. As I can attest through personal experience, these athletes have been working for many years to arrive at this point in their careers and we certainly wish all of them the best of luck.

As these talented and dedicated men and women travel across the world to Sydney they should be reassured by the recognition that they have the complete support of all of us back here in the United States, including a number of major U.S. companies. These companies are the official Olympic sponsors who have invested millions of dollars to ensure that the United States can fully participate in the Olympic Games. However, these companies have been plagued in the past by a problem that is expected to rear its ugly head again in Sydney. The problem is "ambush marketing," a practice in which companies with no relationship to the Olympic Movement nevertheless deceptively portray themselves as being associated with it, thus diminishing the value of an authorized sponsorship, and ultimately depriving American athletes of the necessary funds to prepare for Olympic competition.

The Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act places with the United States

Olympic Committee the responsibility for providing the financial support for American athletes, and for developing all athletic activity in the U.S. related to international competition. All funds for the training and preparation of our athletes for competition in the Olympic, Pan American, and Paralympic Games are generated through private sources, such as Olympic sponsorships, rather than from a government appropriation. Indeed, the USOC is the only National Olympic Committee from throughout the world that receives no government funding, and it is for this reason that the USOC declares with a degree of pride that "America does not send its athletes to the Olympic Games, Americans do."

Apparently the act that gave the USOC the tools to fund its athlete programs privately needs strengthening to ensure that they are not devalued through deceptive practices of ambush advertisers. Congress should consider improvements to the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act to prevent harm to the Olympic movement, legitimate official sponsors, and, most important, America's Olympic athletes. I look forward to monitoring the activities surrounding the Summer Games and exploring ways in which we can ensure that the intent and spirit of the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act are followed.

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A SALUTE TO JON HENDRICKS

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I honor on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus and salute the lifetime achievements of one of the most important artists in American music history. Jazz vocalist and lyricist extraordinary, Jon Hendricks is widely regarded as the "Father of Vocalese," a unique singing style characterized by the addition of lyrics to complex jazz arrangements. Hendricks' impressive body of work has influenced jazz vocalists for decades. He is an "American original," deserving of recognition by the Congress of the United States.

Born in Newark, OH, in 1921, Jon Hendricks began his career as an entertainer singing in the choir of the church where his father served as pastor. He later began singing professionally in nightclubs around Toledo, OH, where his family moved and he grew up. His accompanist for two years was pianist Art Tatum, who, himself, went on to achieve great renown.

After service in the Army, Jon Hendricks returned home and studied law at the University of Toledo. One night, Hendricks was sitting in with legendary saxophonist Charlie Parker. Parker told him to give up law, come to New York City, and pursue work as a jazz singer. Two years later, Jon Hendricks did just that. He found Parker playing at an engagement in Harlem, and almost fainted when Parker invited him up on the bandstand to sing.

In addition to singing, Hendricks sought work in New York as a songwriter. His first chance to record his own material came when King Pleasure invited Hendricks to write lyrics to his version of "Little Boy, Don't Get Scared." Hendricks subsequently developed into one of the greatest jazz lyricists, having

authored the words to such jazz standards as "Doodlin'," "Tickle Toe," "Cloudburst," and "Yeh Yeh." During the course of his career, he has composed lyrics for music written by such jazz giants as Duke Ellington, Miles Davis, Thelonius Monk, Sonny Rollins, and many others.

In the late 50s, Jon Hendricks joined Annie Ross and Dave Lambert to form the groundbreaking jazz vocal trio known as Lambert, Hendricks, and Ross. The group quickly gained fame, winning an award in Down Beat's 1959 Poll. Hendricks wrote lyrics to many of the jazz standards that were performed by the group. A trademark of his work is that each song's lyrics constitute a fully realized story. For this, he earned the nickname "the James Joyce of Jive."

Jon Hendricks has recorded numerous albums during his career, the latest being "Boppin' at the Blue Note," released in 1995. On that particular recording, he is accompanied by a vocal ensemble that includes his wife, Judith, their daughters Michele and Aria, and Kevin Burke.

At 79, Hendricks continues to actively pursue his recording and performing career. He has been called "The Poet Laureate of Jazz" and "The James Joyce of Jive." Among his honors are the Grammy Award, as well as Emmy and Peabody Awards for his work on the CBS-TV documentary, "Somewhere to Lay My Weary Head." Congressman CONYERS, along with ASCAP, will bestow special awards upon Mr. Hendricks during a brief ceremony during the concert.

Last year, Hendricks received an honorary Doctor of Performing Arts degree from the University of Toledo. He was also named Distinguished Professor of Jazz Studies and has just begun teaching classes at the university.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to present to this body the accomplishments of Jon Hendricks, a musical genius whose songs we all have come to enjoy.

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TRIBUTE TO COACH ROBERT LONEY

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to honor Coach Robert Loney. For 42 years, Coach Loney has inspired students and athletes to strive for their personal best.

A native Californian, Coach Loney was born in Riverside and grew up in the City of Pomona. He received his undergraduate degree at Anderson College in Indiana and completed the coursework for his masters degree at Claremont Graduate School in California.

In the fall of 1958, Coach Loney began his career at Upland High School where he taught mathematics and coached the cross country and track teams. In addition, he found time to advise several YMCA clubs. During the course of his career, Coach Loney impacted the lives of well over 1,600 student athletes.

Coach Loney's leadership resulted in 34 League Cross-Country/Track Team Championships, four California Interscholastic Federation Cross-Country/Track Team Championships, and eight California Interscholastic Federation Titles. He has coached two Olympic

athletes and launched the collegiate athletic careers of hundreds of students.

While many accolades have been bestowed on Coach Loney, few can compare to the praise his former students continue to express. Years later, his former students attest that he changed their lives by offering the motivation and inspiration they needed to succeed. Coach Loney believed in his athletes, even when they did not believe in themselves.

On Saturday, September 9, 2000 hundreds of former students will return to Upland High School to celebrate Coach Loney's recent retirement. As these individuals pay tribute to a great American by running one final lap for their devoted coach, I ask that this House please join me in recognizing, honoring and commending Coach Robert Loney as an American Hero.

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INTRODUCTION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE HEPATITIS C HEALTH CARE ACT

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Comprehensive Hepatitis C Health Care Act. This bill would fundamentally change the way the Department of Veterans Affairs is addressing the growing Hepatitis C epidemic, and would create a national standard for testing and treating veterans for the virus.

For several years, I and other members of this chamber from across the country have been asking the VA to look at the growing problem of Hepatitis C among the veterans population, and to dedicate the necessary resources to fighting this disease. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Hepatitis C is a disease of the liver caused by contact with the Hepatitis C virus. It is primarily spread by contact with infected blood. The CDC estimates that an estimated 1.8 percent of the population is infected with the Hepatitis C virus, although that number is much higher among veterans. Vietnam-era veterans are considered to be at greatest risk, since many may have been exposed to Hepatitis C-infected blood as a result of combat-related surgical care during the Vietnam War.

Despite all the attention to Hepatitis C, and all that we are learning about this disease, the VA still lacks a comprehensive, consistent, uniform approach to testing and treating veterans for the virus.

We know this because the VA's handling of Hepatitis C has been raised in hearings in the House, both in the VA/HUD Appropriations subcommittee, of which I am a member, as well as the House Government Reform Subcommittee on National Security, Veterans Affairs and International Relations and the Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Benefits.

In fact, in the VA/HUD Appropriations subcommittee hearing held on March 22, 2000, former VA Secretary Togo West claimed that the VA was unable to spend all of the Fiscal Year 2000 Hepatitis C funding of \$195 million because the demand was not there. He said, "if you are hearing that we are not using all of say the \$199 million that was appropriated in

2000 for hepatitis C, it would be because we are not seeing that incidence of patients that add up to that much money, essentially."

Unfortunately, we are seeing that incidence of patients, most acutely in New Jersey and New York, but across the country as well. If the VA had properly spent the \$195 million allocated in FY2000 on Hepatitis C testing and treatment, then there would have been little reason for the VA to release \$20 million from the National Reserve Account on June 28, 2000. Based on the VA's own figures, the \$20 million allocation was half of what the 22 Veterans Integrated Service Networks, or VISNs, had spent on Hepatitis C in just the first two quarters of FY2000 alone! This money was not even a downpayment toward the Hepatitis C costs being incurred by all 22 VISNs.

Further, only a fraction of the 3.5 million veterans enrolled nationally with the VA Health Care System have been tested to date. Part of the problem stems from a lack of qualified, full-time medical personnel to administer and analyze the tests. Most of the 172 VA hospitals in this country have only one doctor, working a half day a week, to conduct and analyze all the tests. At this rate, it will take years to test the entire enrolled population—years that many of these veterans do not have.

As a result of the VA's inaction, I am introducing the Comprehensive Hepatitis C Health Care Act.

This bill would improve access to Hepatitis C testing and treatment for all veterans, ensure that the VA spends all allocated Hepatitis C funds on testing and treatment, and set new, national policies for Hepatitis C care.

First, the bill would improve testing and treatment for veterans by requiring annual screening tests for Vietnam-era veterans enrolled in the VA system, and provide annual tests, upon request, to other veterans enrolled in the VA system. Further, it would require the VA to treat any enrolled veteran who tests positive for the Hepatitis C virus, regardless of service-connected disability status or priority group categorization. The VA would be required to provide at least one dedicated health care professional—a doctor and a nurse—at each VA Hospital for testing and treatment of this disease.

Veterans who request a liver biopsy or Hepatitis C genotype from VA would be able to receive those tests under this bill. Under the VA's current policy, veterans in some areas of the country have been denied access to these critical tests. And, VA staff would be provided with increased training options intended to improve the quality of care for veterans with Hepatitis C. Finally, the VA is encouraged to provide each VA hospital with one staff member, preferably trained in psychiatry, psychology or social work, to coordinate treatment options and other information with patients.

This bill would increase the amount of money dedicated to Hepatitis C testing and treatment, and would make sure these funds are spent where they are needed most. Beginning in FY01, the \$340 million in Hepatitis C funding would be shifted to the Specific Purpose account under the Veterans Health Administration, and will be dedicated solely for the purpose of paying for the costs associated with treating veterans with the Hepatitis C virus. The bill would allocate these funds to the 22 VISNs based on each VISN's Hepatitis C incidence rate, or the number of veterans

infected with the virus. The VISNs will be allowed to use other funds to pay for the costs associated with Hepatitis C testing and treatment, but the \$340 million in the Specific Purpose account could be used to pay for the costs related to Hepatitis C care.

Finally, this bill will end the confusing patchwork of policies governing the care of veterans with Hepatitis C in each of the 22 VISNs. This legislation directs the VA to develop and implement a standardized, national Hepatitis C policy for its testing protocol, treatment options and education and notification efforts. The bill further directs the VA to develop a standard, specific Hepatitis C diagnosis code for measurement and treatment purposes. Finally, the VA must develop a national "reminder system" to alert untested veterans to the need and availability of Hepatitis C testing.

Mr. Speaker, many veterans do not even realize that they may be infected with the Hepatitis C virus, and the VA is doing little to encourage them to get the critical testing they need. The VA currently lacks a comprehensive national strategy for combating this deadly disease. With the passage of the Comprehensive Hepatitis C Health Care Act, veterans will finally be provided with access to testing and treatment that they have more than earned and deserve.

The VA has known about the problem of Hepatitis C since 1992. They have not acted, and they must not be allowed to continue to push this disease under the rug. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

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TEN YEARS AFTER, U.S. POLICY TOWARD KUWAIT STANDS THE TEST OF TIME

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, it was 10 years ago that the tiny Persian Gulf nation of Kuwait was invaded by Saddam Hussein's ruthless regime in Iraq. As a result of the exceptional leadership of President George Bush, the United States led a coalition of forces that soundly defeated the aggressor, and restored legitimate rule to Kuwait. At the time, the President's decision was heavily criticized by some; but the intervening decade has demonstrated that the decision to oppose Saddam Hussein was correct.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate for Members of this body to reflect on the risks that were involved in Operation Desert Storm. It was a remarkable achievement, made possible by the professionalism and dedication of our armed forces and those of our allies. In an era when politicians motives are cynically dissected by self-appointed pundits, we should be grateful that 10 years ago America stood against tyranny and barbarism.

Mr. Speaker, this Member would commend to his colleagues an editorial in the August 12, 2000, edition of the Omaha World-Herald. As this editorial correctly notes; "Operation Desert Storm prevented Iraq's dictator from spreading instability throughout the Middle East. Stopping that threat was an honorable cause of which Americans can be proud."

[From the Omaha World-Herald, Aug. 12, 2000]

GULF WAR STANDS THE TEST

This month marks the 10-year anniversary of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, which set the stage for the Persian Gulf War. That war has been dismissed in some circles as either a selfish and misguided attempt by the United States to maintain its dependence on foreign oil or, more cynically, as a chance for then-President George Bush to prove he was a tough guy. It was neither.

In the first place, maintaining access to gulf oil is a perfectly justifiable goal. Maintaining international access to any fundamental economic resource, and ensuring that the sea lanes remain open in one of the world's busiest maritime corridors, are legitimate security interests for the United States.

What many discussions of the Gulf War ignore is that by conquering Kuwait, Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein was working toward dominating the entire Middle East. His next step would probably have been to threaten war against Israel or Saudi Arabia. The outcome of such a regional war could have been catastrophic.

Has Saddam been allowed to retain control of Kuwait—which was a sovereign country, after all—he would have reaped an enormous financial windfall by expropriating that nation's oil. With those funds, he could have strengthened his army, which was already the fourth-largest in the world, as well as his offensive missile program, which we now know included ambitious efforts to produce chemical and biological weapons.

Even before Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, Saddam made clear in a speech that he intended to rain down "fire" on Israel—a reference widely interpreted at the time as a threat to bombard Israel with missiles. That threat became reality, of course, during the Gulf War.

The abuses perpetrated by Iraqi forces in Kuwait also demonstrated the ruthlessness of Saddam's regime. Iraqi soldiers killed at least 1,000 Kuwaiti civilians and operated at least two dozen torture sites in Kuwait City. David Scheffer, U.S. ambassador-at-large for war crimes issues, said this week. The Iraqis took thousands of hostages and used many of them as human shields. Saddam's forces, in other words, routinely and openly violated the Geneva Convention.

Additional evidence of Saddam's recklessness came in the final stages of the war, when he ordered his troops to set more than 500 Kuwait well heads on fire and open dozens of others so that more than 7 million gallons of oil spilled into the Persian Gulf.

It's true that, a decade later, Saddam's power is greatly reduced and it's increasingly hard to ignore the suffering of Iraqi civilians due to Saddam's manipulation of the international embargo.

But when it comes to the allies' action against Saddam during 1990-91, the expulsion of his forces from Kuwait was fully justified. Operation Desert Storm prevented Iraq's dictator from spreading instability throughout the Middle East. Stopping that threat was an honorable cause of which Americans can be proud.

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HONORING PAULETTA SMITH

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I commemorate the dedicated public service that

Pauletta Smith has given the City of Los Angeles.

Ms. Smith started her career with the City of Los Angeles on November 27, 1962 as a Clerk Typist with the Los Angeles Police Department. Two years later, she moved to the Bureau of Street Lighting and was promoted to Senior Clerk Typist. In 1975, Ms. Smith returned to the Police Department with the promotion to Personnel Aide and soon thereafter was again promoted, this time to the position of Exam Assistant. Due to her excellent work ethic and can-do attitude, Ms. Smith was again promoted to Administrative Aide in 1981 and, after only two short years, promoted to Administrative Assistant in 1983. Subsequently, her career carried her to the City's Department of Public Works, Department of Transportation, the Department of Telecommunications and the Department of General Services.

Pauletta Smith's diligent work was noticed in every assignment and in 1996 she transferred to the Office of the City Administrative Officer Emergency Preparedness Division as a Management Analyst II. She became an Emergency Preparedness Coordinator in October 1998 to oversee Citywide contingency planning for Year 2000 from which she is now retiring.

Ms. Smith has been an asset to her community, and I wish both her and her family as she joins others an active and enriching retirement.

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A TRIBUTE TO WDAS RADIO

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor WDAS FM and AM Radio, one of Philadelphia's most significant cultural institutions, on its 50th anniversary.

Many of my colleagues recognize that Philadelphia is America's premier music cities. Philadelphia has a history of producing America's music. And since 1950, WDAS has been the sound of Philadelphia.

But this jewel of the airways has been more than entertainment for my neighbors and I. WDAS has also been the soul and the conscience of our city. The FM station is one of the few music outlets that has consistently maintained a commitment to producing hard news for its audience. It has always maintained an unbiased editorial department, and would class news bureau, which has produced journalistic giants like CBS' Ed Bradley or talk radio's Karen Warrington. Whether the story is an election campaign, a major fire or a local tragedy, if it happened in the past 50 years, WDAS covered it.

Mr. Speaker, WDAS AM also serves a major role in the lives of my constituents. It provides in-depth discussion of current events through magazine shows and talk programs. And worship is not left off that station's menu. My dear friend and Pennsylvania State Representative Louise Bishop hosts one of the nation's premier gospel and worship shows on that station. She brings light to the lives of so many people who are shut in and cannot get to services or who attend at a different time.

Most importantly, this station proves that music without questionable lyrics, faith based

broadcasting, news and information do not have to serve as loss leaders on a station's play list. After 50 years of quality broadcasting, WDAS continues to dominate the ratings.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of this station and all my friends who have made its success possible over the years. I know that all my colleagues will join me in honoring this monument to Philadelphia culture.

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IN TRIBUTE TO ESTER GORDY EDWARDS, FOUNDER/CEO MOTOWN HISTORICAL MUSEUM

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus and the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation to celebrate the cultural achievements and monumental contributions to music in both America and around the world as a result of the creative genius and work of Ester Gordy Edwards. On this special occasion, I am honored to present to the 106th Congress, a national treasure who has been one of the most important and influential historical figures of the 20th century in the development of music—Ester Gordy Edwards.

As one of the chief executives and administrators during Motown's first decade, Ester Gordy Edwards, in collaboration with her legendary brother Barry Gordy, was instrumental in the success of Motown through her administrative and talent development skills. She was one of the key architects of marketing the Motown Sound overseas, and helped to bring rhythm and blues, in particular, rhythms and harmonies from gospel music, to millions of listeners in America and around the world.

The "Motown Sound" has brought joy and delight to countless fans, and is a uniquely American art form that will endure the test of time. It is my heart felt belief that because of the work of Ester Gordy Edwards, the music and spirit of Motown will always be with us; because it is music from the heart, it is about love, peace and harmony, it is brilliant, sophisticated, dynamic, and soulful beyond description. Motown music transcends race, class, and culture. This is one of Motown's most profound and powerful historical legacies—promoting brotherhood, humanity, and love through music.

During Motown's first decade, Mrs. Edwards was head of the Artists Personal Management Division of Motown. From her director's position, she guided the career and development of world-famous recording artists, including: Diana Ross, The Supremes, Smokey Robinson, The Miracles, The Temptations, The Four Tops, Marvin Gaye, Stevie Wonder, Mary Wells, Martha Reeves, and many other outstanding artists and musicians. Simultaneously, Mrs. Edwards directed Motown's International Operations, setting up foreign licensees, and sub-publishers, worldwide. Mrs. Edwards' outstanding administration of these areas greatly enhanced Motown's phenomenal growth into the world's largest independent record manufacturer.

In 1972, when Motown Record Corporation moved its headquarters from downtown Detroit

to Los Angeles, California, Mrs. Edwards remained in Detroit as head of Motown's Public Affairs Division, and CEO of Detroit operations. Ongoing public visits and public demand resulted in the official founding of the Motown Historical Museum, Inc. in 1985.

Ester Gordy Edwards is also Vice Chair of the African American Heritage Association (AAHA) which provided the African American Room in the Ethnic Heritage Center at Wayne State University. She is a former member of the National Board of Directors of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Non-Violent Social Change and a former Trustee of the Founders Society of the Detroit Institute of Arts.

Mrs. Edwards is a member of Bethel A.M.E. Church, Alpha Kappa Alpha and Gamma Phi Delta sororities. She is listed in "Who's Who in America" and "Who's Who in the World." One of her cherished honors is being selected in 1994 "Distinguished Warrior" by the Detroit Urban League, for her notable leadership in the community and lifetime devotion to improving conditions in society. Esther Gordy Edwards is the daughter of the late Bertha and Berry Gordy Sr., widow of the late Michigan State Representative George H. Edwards, and mother of one son, Robert B. Bullock by a previous marriage. She is stepmother to the Honorable Harry T. Edwards, Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia; Verne Edwards DeBorge and Pamela Edwards Matthews.

I am proud to honor my close friend Ester Gordy Edwards today, and am one of many admirers of her dedication to excellence and her desire to enrich and strengthen the African American community. Ester Gordy Edwards is a pioneer of African American music, and will forever be remembered as a distinguished woman who has served as a positive role model for African American youth. She gave hope to millions of African Americans by showing that hard work, dedication to your career, and the quest for excellence can translate into dreams fulfilled and lives enriched.

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HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member would ask his colleagues to note that Hispanic Heritage Month begins next week on September 15th. Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated nationally and in this Member's home state of Nebraska from September 15th to October 15th. For Nebraskans, this is a time for us to learn more about an ethnic group which currently comprises 4 percent of our state's population. In fact, the U.S. Census Bureau has noted that Hispanics are the largest minority group in Nebraska.

As this member's colleagues know, individuals throughout this country were involved in the celebration of the Library of Congress Bicentennial and America's richly diverse culture through the Local Legacies Project. One of the projects selected in Nebraska as a "local legacy" was *Nuestros Tesoros*, translated as *Our Treasures: A Celebration of Nebraska's Mexican Heritage*. This project resulted in a soft-cover book that was the culmination of a partnership between the Nebraska Mexican Amer-

ican Commission and the Nebraska State Historical Society. The goal of this was to explore and document the traditional arts, beliefs, and histories of Mexican Americans of Omaha, Lincoln, Grand Island, and Scottsbluff. As a result of this project, it was discovered that Hispanics now live in each of Nebraska's 93 counties. It was also noted that while many are recent immigrants working in many of Nebraska's food processing plants, still others are third- and fourth-generation Nebraskans—descendants of those who came to work on the railroads throughout Nebraska or in the sugar beet fields in western Nebraska.

We celebrate each and every one of these individuals who sought the "good life" that Nebraska offers its residents. Therefore, while many events are planned throughout the nation to celebrate Hispanic heritage, this Member would like to note that the following events are a few of those scheduled in Nebraska:

—September 14th, fundraiser in Omaha at El Museo Latino, featuring speaker Jose Cuevas, Counsel-General of the new Mexican consulate in Omaha;

—September 16th, celebration in Omaha sponsored by the City of Omaha;

—September 16th, festival in Scottsbluff sponsored by the Our Lady Of Guadalupe Church;

—September 29th to 30th, festival in Lincoln sponsored by the Hispanic Center; and

—throughout the month, performances by a dance group from Mexico that will tour various communities in Nebraska.

Again, this Member urges his colleagues to join the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month by recognizing and participating in the events that are taking place in their congressional districts and states in honor of those Americans of Hispanic descent.

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HONORING JAMES T. SUBJECT

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate James T. Subject for his 28 years of exemplary service with the city of Los Angeles.

Prior to beginning his career with the City of Los Angeles in 1972, Mr. Subject served two years in the U.S. Army, attaining the rank of Military Police Sergeant with security assignments in West Germany and at the Military Academy at West Point. He was then assigned to the City as a Junior Administrative Assistant in the Elections Division of the City Clerk's Office, where he was soon after promoted to the Assistant Elections Supervisor. In 1975, Mr. Subject was promoted to Senior Administrative Assistant in the Bureau of Sanitation, of the Public Works Department, where he supervised the Administrative Services Section of the Sewage Treatment Division. Two years later he joined the Office of the City Administrative Officer as an Administrative Analyst, and was assigned as liaison analyst with responsibilities for the Harbor Department and the Department of Water and Power.

In 1978, Mr. Subject was promoted to Senior Administrative Analyst and for eight years he was the lead analyst on the Police Department budget. Subsequently, he was assigned

to the Municipal Facilities Construction Program and the City Hall Seismic Rehabilitation Project. Mr. Subject was next promoted to Chief Administrative Analyst in 1997 with the responsibility of supervising the Public Safety Budget Group that which includes Police, Fire, Animal Services, and Building and Safety Department budget liaison assignments. Not long afterwards, Mr. Subject was assigned to supervise the CAO's Finance Group which is responsible for citywide revenue forecasting, budget coordination and administering the City's automated budget system.

For his work in the CAO's Finance Group, Mr. Subject received special recognition from Mayor Richard J. Riordan for his "hard work, dedication, and extraordinary professionalism," with respect to the annual budget process. James T. Subject has been a valuable member of our community and praiseworthy civil servant. Mr. Subject deserves our thanks for his dedicated service to the City of Los Angeles. I wish him and his family the best and I hope that he enjoys the active retirement which he so richly deserves.

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A TRIBUTE TO ANN B. HAGELE

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a great Philadelphian, Ann Hagele. For a decade, Ann served older Philadelphians as Executive Director of the Philadelphia Senior Center.

That 50 year old institution is one of this nation's premier service providers for the elderly. Philadelphians are living longer and are more active than ever. Under Ms. Hagele's leadership, the agency expanded its services to meet the needs of today's senior. She instituted financial management and housing counseling, community dining, and programs to help seniors live independently and in good health. She launched a wheel chair-accessible mini-bus service to help clients stay mobile, a fitness-for-life center and a learning center, to improve their physical and mental conditions. And when heat waves threatened seniors' lives, Ann started a fan distribution program that gave out almost 6,000 fans to poor Philadelphians.

Mr. Speaker, Ann Hagele has decided to retire from the Philadelphia Senior Center. Her leadership will be missed, but her legacy will live on. I know my colleagues will join me in honoring her today.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, due to my presence at a funeral of a close family friend on Wednesday, September 6, I was not able to participate in any rollcall votes that took place on that day. If I had been present, I would have voted yes on rollcall votes #451, #452 and #453.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR.
JERRY RAYMOND

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the lifetime achievements of Mr. Jerry Raymond who passed away in January, 2000 and offer my sincere condolences to his family.

Jerry Raymond was a remarkable man whose many contributions to Wayne County, the labor movement and the City of Livonia will be long remembered. He was a 49 year resident of Livonia and served on the City Council from 1966 to 1980. Always cognizant of the needs of others, his favorite saying was "People come first." He advocated for housing for seniors before it was the popular thing to do. His sensitivity to others is undoubtedly why he was re-elected to office so many times.

There are many other fascinating things that are important to know about this special man. He quit high school after his mother died and his father lost his job. As he moved around the country looking for a job, he started getting involved in strikes and joined the cause of working men and women. He became a union activist and his leadership in the labor movement brought him national recognition. Despite his many achievements, Jerry felt something was missing as he watched other family members pursue a higher education. Although he did not have a high school diploma, he enrolled in law school. He graduated Cum Laude and was honored by being elected President of his class. He opened a law practice called Jerry Raymond and Associates in Livonia and practiced law until shortly before his death.

Jerry was a special friend, role-model and mentor to many including myself. He was very involved in his community and in democratic politics. He is missed by everyone whose life he touched, but his spirit lives on in our memories and in the legacy he left behind.

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VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION IS
AN ANSWER TO LABOR SHORT-
AGES

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, one of the outstanding public servants with whom I have worked, and from whom I have learned a great deal, is Elmer C. Bartels, the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission. Elmer Bartels has an extraordinary record of effective advocacy on behalf of people with disabilities, and has done a great deal to educate the rest of us as to the terrible error we have made in failing to help them work to their full potential. Recently Elmer Bartels wrote an excellent article on this subject, drawing on his own expertise in the field, and because it is so relevant to the public policy considerations we will be dealing with as we reconvene, I submit Elmer Bartels' article on the importance of workers with disabilities in the American economy.

EMPLOYERS WITH LABOR SHORTAGES SHOULD
LOOK TO VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

(By Elmer C. Bartels)

It is a fact that today more individuals with disabilities are in the workplace earning real wages than ever before. Certainly the booming economy has a lot to do with it, but there is much more to the story than just that.

The unsung hero in the struggle to enhance employment opportunities for people with disabilities is the Federal/State Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program, authorized and funded under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

For nearly 80 years, and against great odds and prejudices, the State Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program has helped people with disabilities prepare to enter the workplace. Every state has a vocational rehabilitation agency whose sole purpose is to assist people with disabilities obtain the skills, training and confidence necessary to enable them to take their rightful place in the economy.

However, until the passage of Sec. 504 of the Rehabilitation Act in 1975 and later the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, opportunities in the workplace were limited and often resulted in placement in sheltered workshops.

MAINSTREAM OPPORTUNITIES

However, with advances in technology and the shortage of qualified workers, new mainstream work opportunities are becoming more available for persons with disabilities.

When the Work Incentives Improvement Act (WIIA) was signed into law on Dec. 17, another impediment was removed in addressing the nation's efforts to encourage people with severe disabilities to go to work.

Nationally, there are, according to the General Accounting Office, about 2.5 million people with disabilities receiving Social Security benefits under both Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) who could possibly benefit from WIIA. (This population represents about 27 percent of the total number of individuals who are eligible to access the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program.)

WIIA's assurance of the continued availability of health insurance, under both Medicaid and Medicare, for SSI and SSDI recipients, will remove a formidable barrier to their employment. Public vocational rehabilitation counselors assess the skills and interests of people with disabilities, help them develop individualized plans for employment, and purchase or arrange for the services or training they need to become qualified for jobs.

225,000 PEOPLE HELPED

This program can provide any reasonable and necessary services to help individuals with disabilities get ready for real work. Last year, the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program helped 225,000 people with disabilities across America enter the work force.

In Massachusetts, the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program, through the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, helped 4,800 individuals with disabilities go to work in 1999. Federal funding for vocational rehabilitation was \$2.4 billion in 1999. The states matched those federal funds with \$600 million of their own, resulting in a \$3 billion national Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program. The distribution formula of federal funds to the states is based upon the population and per capita income of each state.

The \$3 billion spent nationally on vocational rehabilitation services produces \$2.6 billion in employee earnings and \$850 million in state and federal revenues during a single

year of employment alone. This is an incredible return-on-investment in light of the fact that those earnings continue for years without the expenditure of additional vocational rehabilitation dollars.

A 5-TO-1 RETURN ON THE DOLLAR

The Social Security Administration reports that each dollar spent for the vocational rehabilitation of SSA recipients results in \$5 in savings to the Trust Fund and treasury. The 225,000 individuals with disabilities employed last year will continue to earn real wages and pay state and federal taxes far in excess of the investment made in their employment future by the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program.

Despite the extraordinary success of the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program, half of the states restrict the number of people with disabilities served due to a lack of funds. It is estimated that an additional \$600 million in federal monies, plus the state match of \$120 million, would eliminate waiting lists in every state and help another 54,000 people with disabilities go to work.

Additional public vocational rehabilitation services and the guarantee of medical coverage under the WIIA would significantly reduce the unacceptably high rate of unemployment among people with disabilities.

According to statistics compiled by the GAO, it is estimated that between 15 million and 20 million Americans have health-related work limitations. Each year the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program serves 1.2 million people with disabilities who want to work.

HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

A recent Harris survey indicates that 71 percent of working-age Americans with disabilities are unemployed and of that number, 72 percent want to work.

However, 42 percent of working-age Americans with disabilities believe that they are too disabled to work. The highly qualified, professional vocational rehabilitation counselors of the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program work with individuals with significant disabilities to help them recognize that it is possible for even the most significantly disabled individuals to increase their economic and personal independence through work.

The passage of WIIA and the guarantee of continued health insurance coverage for Social Security recipients makes work a realistic goal for many more people with significant disabilities.

A recently completed seven-year study by the Research Triangle Institute, confirmed once again the success of the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program by showing that it is highly effective in placing people with disabilities into productive jobs. No other federal or state program has received this type of scrutiny and measured up to such a high level of successful outcomes.

INDEPENDENT LIVES

It proved once again that the federal/state effort to improve the lives of persons with disabilities by allowing them to live independent and productive lives is on the right track.

In particular, the study shows that:

■ Graduates of Public VR worked an average of 35 hours per week and earned an average of \$7.35 per hour;

■ 37.5 percent of the graduates earned more than \$7 per hour;

■ 78.4 percent of graduates work in professional, managerial, technical, clerical, sales or service jobs;

■ 85 percent of graduates were working in the same or other job one year after graduation;

■ 67.6 percent of graduates were satisfied or very satisfied with their jobs;

■ 67.1 percent of graduates were satisfied or very satisfied the opportunity for advancement with their jobs;

■ 61.5 percent of graduates were satisfied with fringe benefits with their jobs.

The number of hours worked by consumers, the wages they earned, and their satisfaction with jobs and working conditions are all strong endorsements of the efficacy of the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program.

Clearly, the Rehabilitation Act, and the ADA have helped to create a societal expectation that people with disabilities can and should have the opportunity to work. Now, WIIA provides for the health care supports essential to individuals with disabilities who want to work. Adequate funding of the public vocational Rehabilitation Program will help thousands more people with disabilities obtain good jobs.

The administration and Congress will demonstrate fiscal responsibility and a wise investment in the human resources of our nation by adequately funding Public Vocational Rehabilitation in the federal year 2001.

The American economy needs workers, people with disabilities need work opportunities, and the federal treasury needs more taxpayers. The Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program pays for itself many times over in taxes and human potential realized.

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RECOGNIZING THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION "A MESSAGE OF PEACE"

HON. LOIS CAPP

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mrs. CAPP. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate and to call my colleagues' attention to an important exhibition that is taking place this week and month in Santa Barbara, California—the "Message of Peace" Hiroshima/Nagasaki International Exhibition.

I want to warmly welcome and recognize the distinguished Japanese Delegation that has traveled to our Country to officially open the exhibition. I believe that the presence of this Delegation and the wisdom that their experience provides will foster many meaningful dialogues.

Due to the generous support of community organizations, this exhibit has been sponsored by the Santa Barbara Nuclear Age Peace Foundation. The exhibition seeks to preserve the memory of the tragic consequences of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in the hope of strengthening our commitment to a more peaceful world. In addition to the artifacts and photos of the exhibit, the Foundation and other community groups have organized a series of events and exhibits that will reach countless people—young and old—with the Message of Peace.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to close by thanking the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation for its ceaseless commitment to peace. I am honored to represent the Foundation and the ideals its members stand for in Washington.

CHARLES SPITALE HONORED FOR 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Charles J. Spitale, who is retiring this month as the vice president and chief executive officer of AAA-Mid Atlantic.

Charlie has served the members of the AAA for 40 years. He began as a service counselor in 1960, worked his way up to the position of office manager, and eventually was promoted to the position of executive vice president with the former Valley Auto Club. Upon the merger with AAA Mid-Atlantic in 1996, he was appointed vice president and CEO.

He has also served for many years on the AAA Board of Directors and the Finance Committee of the AAA Federation. Charlie has also received numerous awards as a member of several Pennsylvania AAA Federation committees, and he has received national recognition from AAA in the area of sales production and promotion. He was also instrumental in facilitating the merger of the Tourist Promotion Agencies of Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to his accomplishments on the job, Charlie has a long and distinguished history with the Kiwanis Club of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. He joined the club in 1966, serving as its 56th president from 1974 to 1975 and its secretary from 1987 to 1988. During his year as president, the club completed several outstanding community service projects as well as a variety of activities for Kiwanians and their families.

Under his leadership, the club's primary fundraising project during that year was a performance by the world-famous Yugoslavian dance ensemble, the Frula, which means "flute" in Slovenian. This and other fundraising allowed the club to assist not only the Kiwanis Charitable Foundation, but also for the Kingston Senior Citizens' Center, Camp Acahela of the Penns Mountains Boy Scout Council and the Wyoming Valley Cerebral Palsy Association.

Last but certainly not least, Charlie also founded the club's High-Rise Tree Trim Project in 1972 and chaired it for 26 years.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the numerous accomplishments and good deeds of Charles Spitale, and I wish him the best in his retirement.

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UNESCO'S NEW SECRETARY GENERAL VISITS CONGRESS—NOW IS THE TIME FOR THE UNITED STATES TO REJOIN

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I want to invite my colleagues in the Congress to join me in welcoming to Capitol Hill today His Excellency Koichiro Matsuura, Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cul-

tural Organization (UNESCO). Mr. Matsuura—a distinguished Japanese diplomat who formerly served as Deputy Foreign Minister of Japan, who is a graduate of Haverford College in Pennsylvania, and who served for a time at the Japanese Embassy here in Washington—assumed the leadership of UNESCO last fall. Under his leadership the organization has made remarkable progress in dealing with many of the criticisms that have been leveled at UNESCO in the past.

UNESCO was established in 1945, at the same time the United Nations itself was created. Under terms of its charter, the organization is "to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion, by the Charter of the United Nations."

For valid and sound reasons the United States withdrew from membership in UNESCO in 1984, along with the United Kingdom and Singapore. At that time the organization suffered from mismanagement at the highest levels, and some of its leadership urged a poorly-conceived scheme to establish a "new international information order" which appeared to many to be no more than an attempt to regulate the press. I supported the decision of our government to withdraw from membership.

Since 1984, UNESCO has made important changes to address the criticisms leveled by the United States and other nations. Under the leadership of Director General Federico Mayor Zaragoza of Spain a number of essential changes were made. In 1993 the General Accounting Office conducted an extensive review of UNESCO's efforts to implement changes to solve the problems cited by the United States in our decision to withdraw from the organization. That report concluded that the leadership of UNESCO has demonstrated a commitment to management reform. Britain rejoined UNESCO in 1997. Now under the leadership of Mr. Matsuura, further fundamental management reforms are being made.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of the transformation of UNESCO, I introduced legislation earlier in this Congress directing the President to develop a strategy to bring the United States back into full and active participation in UNESCO. My legislation, H.R. 1974, recognizes the important contribution which the organization can make in constructing "the defenses of peace" against intolerance and incitements to war.

It is important for the United States to participate in UNESCO. We can make significant contributions in shaping and implementing the worthy goals of this organization. The legislation I have introduced, Mr. Speaker, recognizes the cost implications of our participation in UNESCO and that is why it directs the President and Secretary of State to develop a strategy for our returning to full membership.

Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate that we are not now active members of this organization. I invite my colleagues to join me—not only in welcoming His Excellency Director General Koichiro Matsuura here to Capitol Hill—but in cosponsoring H.R. 1974 to bring the United States back into full participation in UNESCO.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably absent on a matter of critical importance and missed the following votes:

On H.R. 4884 (rollcall No. 451), to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 West 2nd Street in Royal Oak, Michigan as the "William S. Broomfield Post Office Building," introduced by the gentleman from Michigan, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, I would have voted "yea."

On H.R. 4484 (roll No. 452), to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 North Washington Street in Rockville, Maryland, as the "Everett Alvarez, Jr. Post Office Building," introduced by the gentlelady from Maryland, Mrs. MORELLA, I would have voted "yea."

On H.R. 4448 (roll No. 453), to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3500 Dolfield Avenue in Baltimore, Maryland, as the "Judge Robert Bernard Watts, Sr. Post Office Building," introduced by the gentleman from Maryland, Mr. CUMMINGS, I would have voted "yea."

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to other commitments, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows: On July 27, 2000, Rollcall vote No. 450, on the Social Security Benefits Tax Relief, I would have voted "yea." Rollcall vote No. 449, on Agreeing to the Pomeroy Amendment, I would have voted "nay."

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AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, last month marked the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The federal government commemorated this historic milestone through many activities—from President Clinton announcing new proposals to make it easier for Social Security disability beneficiaries to contribute to the workforce without losing their benefits, to the House approving the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000, to the opening of a new exhibit that examines the history of the disability rights movement at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.

These activities are a long overdue symbol of federal commitment to individuals with disabilities. And to build on this momentum I would like to submit the eloquent testimony of

Mr. Elmer Bartels, Commissioner of the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, regarding employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

[From the Cape Cod Times, June 4, 2000]

EMPLOYERS WITH LABOR SHORTAGES SHOULD LOOK TO VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

(By Elmer C. Bartels)

It is a fact that today more individuals with disabilities are in the workplace earning real wages than ever before. Certainly the booming economy has a lot to do with it, but there is much more to the story than just that.

The unsung hero in the struggle to enhance employment opportunities for people with disabilities is the Federal/State Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program, authorized and funded under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

For nearly 80 years, and against great odds and prejudices, the State Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program has helped people with disabilities prepare to enter the workplace. Every state has a vocational rehabilitation agency whose sole purpose is to assist people with disabilities obtain the skills, training and confidence necessary to enable them to take their rightful place in the economy.

However, until the passage of Sec. 504 of the Rehabilitation Act in 1975 and later the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, opportunities in the workplace were limited and often resulted in placement in sheltered workshops.

MAINSTREAM OPPORTUNITIES

However, with advances in technology and the shortage of qualified workers, new mainstream work opportunities are becoming more available for persons with disabilities.

When the Work Incentives Improvement Act (WIIA) was signed into law on Dec. 17, another impediment was removed in addressing the nation's efforts to encourage people with severe disabilities to go to work.

Nationally, there are, according to the General Accounting Office, about 2.5 million people with disabilities receiving Social Security benefits under both Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) who could possibly benefit from WIIA. (This population represents about 27 percent of the total number of individuals who are eligible to access the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program.)

WIIA's assurance of the continued availability of health insurance, under both Medicaid and Medicare, for SSI and SSDI recipients, will remove a formidable barrier to their employment. Public vocational rehabilitation counselors assess the skills and interests of people with disabilities, help them develop individualized plans for employment, and purchase or arrange for the services or training they need to become qualified for jobs.

225,000 PEOPLE HELPED

This program can provide any reasonable and necessary services to help individuals with disabilities get ready for real work. Last year, the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program helped 225,000 people with disabilities across America enter the work force.

In Massachusetts, the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program, through the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, helped 4,800 individuals with disabilities go to work in 1999.

Federal funding for vocational rehabilitation was \$2.4 billion in 1999. The states matched those federal funds with \$600 million of their own, resulting in a \$3 billion national Public Vocational Rehabilitation Pro-

gram. The distribution formula of federal funds to the states is based upon the population and per capita income of each state.

The \$3 billion spent nationally on vocational rehabilitation services produces \$2.6 billion in employee earnings and \$850 million in state and federal revenues during a single year of employment alone. This is an incredible return-on-investment in light of the fact that those earnings continue for years without the expenditure of additional vocational rehabilitation dollars.

A 5-TO-1 RETURN ON THE DOLLAR

The Social Security Administration reports that each dollar spent for the vocational rehabilitation of SSA recipients results in \$5 in savings to the Trust Fund and treasury. The 225,000 individuals with disabilities employed last year will continue to earn real wages and pay state and federal taxes far in excess of the investment made in their employment future by the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program.

Despite the extraordinary success of the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program, half of the states restrict the number of people with disabilities served due to a lack of funds. It is estimated that an additional \$600 million in federal monies, plus the state match of \$120 million, would eliminate waiting lists in every state and help another 54,000 people with disabilities go to work.

Additional public vocational rehabilitation services and the guarantee of medical coverage under the WIIA would significantly reduce the unacceptably high rate of unemployment among people with disabilities.

According to statistics compiled by the GAO, it is estimated that between 15 million and 20 million Americans have health-related work limitations. Each year the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program serves 1.2 million people with disabilities who want to work.

HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

A recent Harris survey indicates that 71 percent of working-age Americans with disabilities are unemployed and of that number, 72 percent want to work.

However, 42 percent of working-age Americans with disabilities believe that they are too disabled to work. The highly qualified, professional vocational rehabilitation counselors of the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program work with individuals with significant disabilities to help them recognize that it is possible for even the most significantly disabled individuals to increase their economic and personal independence through work.

The passage of WIIA and the guarantee of continued health insurance coverage for Social Security recipients makes work a realistic goal for many more people with significant disabilities.

A recently completed seven-year study by the Research Triangle Institute, confirmed once again the success of the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program by showing that it is highly effective in placing people with disabilities into productive jobs. No other federal or state program has received this type of scrutiny and measured up to such a high level of successful outcomes.

INDEPENDENT LIVES

It proved once again that the federal/state effort to improve the lives of persons with disabilities by allowing them to live independent and productive lives is on the right track.

In particular, the study shows that:

Graduates of Public VR worked an average of 35 hours per week and earned an average of \$7.35 per hour;

37.5 percent of the graduates earned more than \$7 per hour;

78.4 percent of graduates work in professional, managerial, technical, clerical, sales or service jobs;

85 percent of graduates were working in the same or other job one year after graduation;

67.6 percent of graduates were satisfied or very satisfied with their jobs;

67.1 percent of graduates were satisfied or very satisfied the opportunity for advancement with their jobs;

61.5 percent of graduates were satisfied with fringe benefits with their jobs.

The number of hours worked by consumers, the wages they earned, and their satisfaction with jobs and working conditions are all strong endorsements of the efficacy of the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program.

Clearly, the Rehabilitation Act, and the ADA have helped to create a societal expectation that people with disabilities can and should have the opportunity to work. Now, WIIA provides for the health care supports essential to individuals with disabilities who want to work. Adequate funding of the Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program will help thousands more people with disabilities obtain good jobs.

The administration and Congress will demonstrate fiscal responsibility and a wise investment in the human resources of our nation by adequately funding Public Vocational Rehabilitation in the federal year 2001.

The American economy needs workers, people with disabilities need work opportunities, and the federal treasury needs more taxpayers. The Public Vocational Rehabilitation Program pays for itself many times over in taxes and human potential realized.

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BENEFITS OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PROGRAMS

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, in recent years the passage of the Workforce Investment Act and the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act have meant a great deal to individuals with disabilities who are working to gain greater social and economic independence. In Massachusetts the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, Mr. Elmer C. Bartels, has carried this message across the Commonwealth. In order to bring his message of employment opportunity for people with disabilities to our national constituency, I submit his editorial, which was printed in the June 4, 2000 edition of the Cape Cod Times, for insertion into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

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